INFLAMMABLE

#2



VIOLENCE IS FIRST OF ALL THE CONDITIONS THAT ARE IMPOSED ON US. THEN THERE IS THE VIOLENCE OF THE POLICE WHO DEFEND THESE CONDITIONS.



AND, UNFORTUNATELY MORE RARELY, THERE IS THE VIOLENCE THAT WE THROW BACK IN THEIR FACES.



sabotagemedia.anarkhia.org





“We hold back by telling ourselves that our boss will soon give us the order to charge. It’s our candy”.... “When a protest is declared illegal, people have no more business there. They can raise their arms in the air and give us peace and love signs as much as they want, they’re gonna be arrested anyways”... “The guys call it National Geographic because when we charge, the kids run like gazelles!”

—Riot pig interviewed by Journal de Montréal



The experience of rioting uncontrollably in the streets even when faced with a brutal enemy - the state and capital’s mercenaries. The moment where we take back our lives, where we free ourselves from morality, fear, and the identities imposed on us. It cannot be stopped by a negotiation table, nor a ballot box. It isn’t the beginning of a movement nor will it die with a movement: It is to be alive, free, and wild!

Links



Autonomous communication for the struggle against authority	mtlcounter-info.org
The end is near...it is within your reach	antidev.wordpress.com
Anarchist zine against civilization	anarchieverte.ch40s.net/la-mauvaise-herbe
Anarchist diffusion collective	lamitrailleuse.noblogs.org
Anarchist social space	epoquemtl.org
Convergence des luttes anticapitalistes	clac-montreal.net
Anarchist library of Montréal	bibliothequedira.wordpress.com
A purely revolutionary journal	anarkhia.org

This issue is for all those who have weathered repression this last year.

For all the strong hearts willing to put their freedom on the line.

For all the wild ones.



LIGHT IT UP

texts, communiqués, and reportbacks primarily from Montréal…moments of revolt that warm the heart





Solidarity against borders and deportations

On Tuesday, September 27, 2011, anarchists held a 40-person solidarity gathering in downtown Montréal in response to recent deportations and detentions of non-status migrants in Montréal. A short march was held from the Quartier des Spectacles to Berri Square under the banner ***vive la solidarité avec les sans papiers, sabotons la machine à expulser*** ["Long live solidarity with undocumented immigrants, Sabotage the deportation machine"] and thousands of fliers were distributed. Due to the intervention of the SPVM (Montréal's municipal police force) riot squad the march was briefly disrupted and forced to the sidewalk, but retook the streets and ended at its intended destination, dispersing without arrests. The text from the flyer:

For a world without borders, states, or government papers!
Free movement for all!

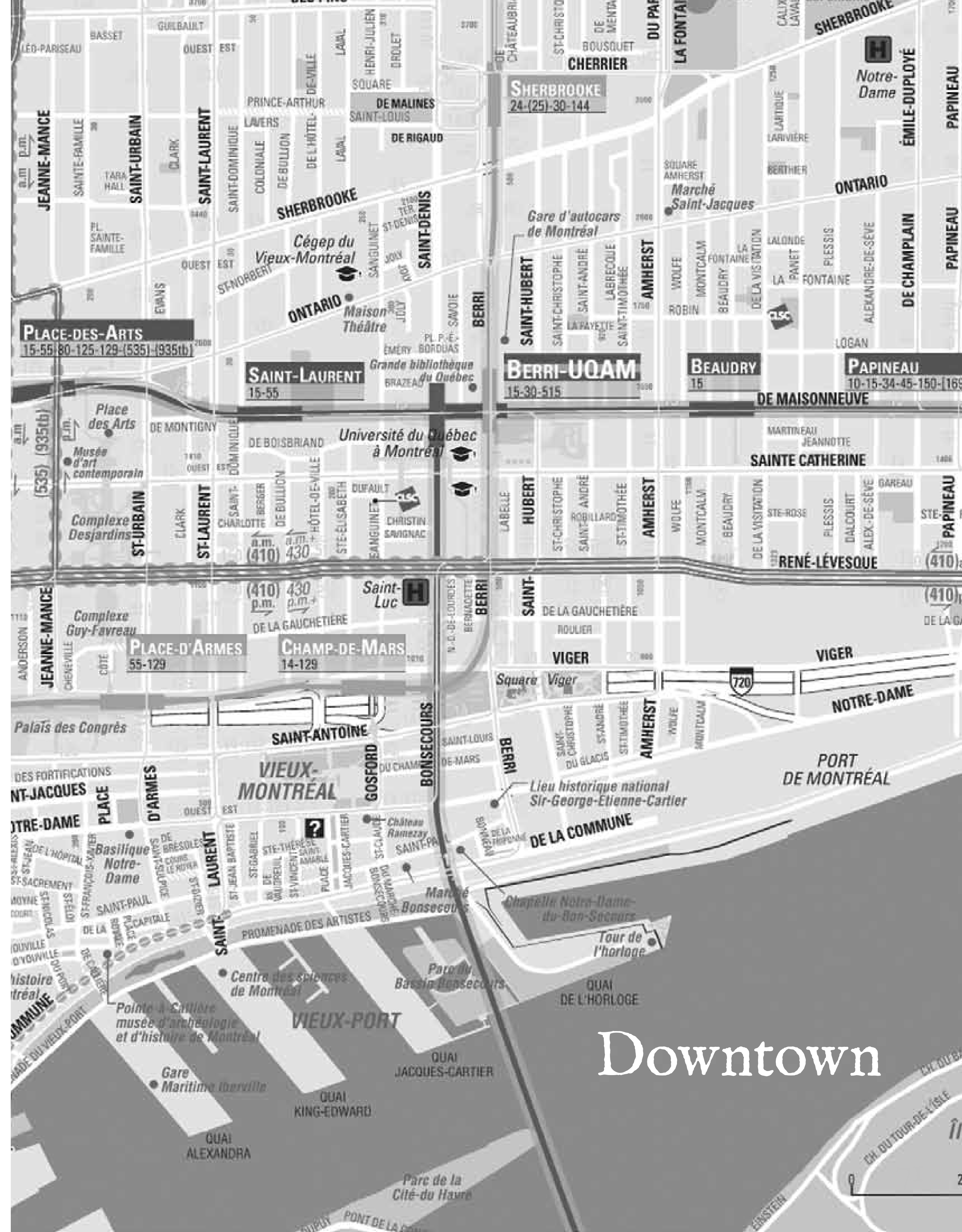
In the last few days, immigration officials have once again come into the homes of people who don't have the right papers and taken them away. Away from their families, their homes, and their lives. Maybe you know someone who this has happened to, maybe your loved ones have been ripped from you by police and immigration bureaucrats, or maybe this is something you only hear about on the evening news. Either way, this system that tries to dominate and exploit us – by brutally controlling the movement of people while promoting the movement of capital – destroys lives every day.

Capitalism forces precarity upon all of us, and this is most clearly seen in the lives of migrants. People try to take back control over their lives by moving across national boundaries – often to escape the wars, ecological devastation, and political repression that capital imposes globally. They then find themselves deemed "criminal" for existing on the wrong side of arbitrary lines drawn by the state, and so live in daily fear of capture and deportation. They are blackmailed into accepting the worst working conditions at the lowest pay, and if they are not needed, they can simply be turned over to the authorities.

We're infuriated by the state and its bureaucracies deciding the fates of others and sending them back to situations that could mean death, abuse, and torture. We're sick of the courts that force people to justify their right to exist. We have only disgust for the ongoing raids, the police harassment, and the border itself. These raids, border walls, and detention centres attempt to terrorize all migrants into accepting their current conditions, just as prisons and police attempt to terrorize everyone into accepting the current order. However, they can't stem the tide of revolt from those who don't want a life of fear and submission. Their increasingly elaborate systems of social control still cannot contain the detention centre riots, hunger strikes, and planned escapes, nor paralyze us from spreading a revolutionary practice and critique on the outside of these prison walls, such as by attacking collaborators in the deportation machine and through actions that directly shut down border posts as was seen in Akwesasne in 2009.

We have no interest in humane detention centres, in streamlining the citizenship process, in picking between immigrants "good" and "bad". We will not grant these systems power by asking them to change or make petty allowances; what we want is their destruction. The request for change transfers agency from you to that thing which receives your demands, and the very act of communication grants it continued life.

As anarchists, we want to destroy this system that divides us between the "citizen" and the "illegal", and do away with the states and borders that maintain "citizenship". We want to destroy these institutions, with the help of as great a part of society as possible, in order to have the ability to create a world based not on exploitation, but on mutual aid and solidarity.





Attack against a nationalist identity group

November 26, 2011

The Légion Nationale, a nationalist identity group of right-wing extremist tendency, organized a rally that was ultimately limited to a gathering due to the small number of participants. The gathering was held at 12 pm, at the corner of René-Lévesque and Guy, opposite the Hotel Maritime Plaza, close to the South Operational Centre of the SPVM. At this gathering, there were only fifteen individuals, many of whom were obviously far-right skinheads. Several Québec flags were displayed. Collaboration with the police seemed obvious.

Thirty or so antifas arrived on the spot, shouting slogans such as "***alerta, alerta, antifascista***". A police car stood between the nationalist identity group (who are actually neo-nazi socialists wanting a white and francophone Québec without immigrants) and antifas. This did not prevent the two groups from throwing stones, bottles and various other projectiles.

This lasted about ten minutes. While police cars and paddy wagons were on their way, the antifas made off at once while being pursued by the cops. There were ten or so arrests. Many were released with huge fines, while others are still in the cages of CO South.[1]

Cops protecting fascists is nothing new. The scene was nonetheless spectacular.

This afternoon, the Troisième Voix du Québec (a nationalist identity organization) hosted Serge Ayoub, alias Batskin, who was to give a lecture at an unknown location. Serge Ayoub was a far-right skinhead active in France in the '80s and '90s. Today, he's adapted his speech to current issues more broadly and distanced himself from the skinhead subculture, which makes his argument all the more influential.

It appears that the right-wing discourse is taking place more and more in Québec by perfectly integrating itself into the long-cultivated fervor of national pride. The speakers strike chords within the population. This is not surprising; in times of economic crisis, it is all too easy to scapegoat an internal enemy created from nothing rather than attack the entirety of the capitalist system. Impressions of déjà vu?

The discourse of the nationalist-socialist right is to build a class struggle of white workers and is clearly opposed to globalized liberal capitalism. It fears anything that could dilute the pure culture of the white francophone nation. Québec nationalism has no clear lines. Several different political positions, both right and left, are found under its umbrella. As for white nationalism, it is accompanied by the ideas of purity, of "being civilized", and the superiority of the white race, thus justifying a social hierarchy of races. Understanding identity nationalism as an isolated and superficial discourse is certainly a mistake, because it in fact only exposes the dynamics of the historically constructed social structures of this hierarchical world, where capital is master and where white men are privileged and dominant. It consists of the whinings of the dominant white man who victimizes himself, pretending to be overwhelmed by those whom he has always despised and dominated. A scumbag who wants to defend his scumbag privileges.

Oi! Oi! Fuck fascists, cops, and capitalism!

New Year's prison noise demo

On January 1, 2012, we shot off fireworks, and made noise against the fences to ring in the New Year with the prisoners of the Bordeaux and Tanguay Women's provincial prisons in North Montréal. About thirty people showed their solidarity with prisoners who are locked behind bars and face isolation, humiliation, and infantilization, for whom each day resembles the last, and who have few choices in their lives. After all, we sometimes feel similarly. At Bordeaux, prisoners were able to communicate by flashing their lights; at Tanguay, although the prisoners could not see us, they responded with loud calls of "Happy New Year".

For several years, at New Year's, we have been keeping with international anarchist tradition and holding noise demos outside prisons. Capitalism relies on a coercive and disciplinary system to instill a fear of the consequences of acting on instincts toward freedom. Together, we need to develop a collective strength to break the walls and borders that divide us.

[1] Ultimately, everyone was released without charges.

The only thing that can be called "justice" in this rotten world is the vengeance of the oppressed

It is with intense rage that we learn of the assassination of Farshad Mohammadi, a homeless man sleeping in the métro (subway) last Friday until he was shot in the back by the bastards of the SPVM, who justify this murder by saying that he injured one of them with an Exacto knife during their intervention.

These hitmen who, through threats and force, act as the front line of the domination of our lives, justify themselves by their own monopoly on violence, by the hierarchical organization of violence which makes it legitimate only when stemming from authority, acceptable only when used by those above and suffered by those below. Any deviation from this principle will be punished severely, namely through elimination.

To whom and to what was this man sleeping in the métro really a threat?

He was a threat to private property because he continued to survive without it. He was a threat to public property because he did not use it to simply circulate like a commodity in its consumer-slave corridors. He was a threat to state borders – which in fact delimit the different sections of the prison that this degraded planet has become – because he was fighting a deportation notice. And finally, he was a threat to the mercenaries who by fear and violence maintain submission to this world that is dominated by parasites with power, for having resisted, with an Exacto knife, these individuals armed with batons, pepper spray, tasers, and guns.

Faced with calls to reform resonating from left to right – asking for better conditions of slavery in this system that makes us pay for all the horror it creates – we answer that the only thing that can be called "justice" in this rotten world is the vengeance of the oppressed.

We will never forget, we will never forgive.

Let's chase the cops from our lives!
Let's destroy the extermination machine!
Until total liberation!

In response to Farshad Mohammadi's murder by the police

On Friday, January 6, 2012, the Montréal police killed Farshad Mohammadi – a homeless man and Kurdish political refugee – in the métro.

This killing is horrific, but not surprising. The police as an institution exist to maintain power and enforce a social peace necessary to keep capitalism in motion. To this end, they consistently suppress those who don't, can't, or choose not to fit into this system.

As one of many attempts to respond to this killing, a few of us put up hundreds of posters inside the métro trains with an anti-police analysis while trying to engage with bystanders about the reasons for the action. ***porcs–flics–assassins*** and ***cops–pigs–murderers*** were also painted onto the walls of the platform at Peel métro.

Demo in response to yet another police killing

On Saturday, February 25, 2012, in Montréal, a group of 40 people or so took the streets of Hochelaga in response to the murder of Jean-François Nadreau on February 16 by the SPVM, adding to the long list that continues to grow of people killed by the humanoid garbage who patrol our streets.

The demo, which lasted about an hour, left place Valois with anti-prison and anti-cop banners and headed to station 23 where the assassin of Jean-François Nadreau is based. After stopping there for a while, we went to Maisonneuve Market, passed out leaflets, and headed back to place Valois by rue Ontario.

Throughout the demo we yelled ***police de montréal, milice du capital !*** ["Montreal police, militia of capital!"], ***cops, pigs, murderers!***, and ***la police, au service, des riches et des fascistes !*** ["Police, at the service of the rich and the fascists!"]. People in the neighbourhood responded by cheering, honking, and sharing their rage with us by yelling out their hatred of cops.

We will never forget, we will never forgive!
Lets chase the cops off our streets, from our minds and our lives!
Solidarity is our best weapon!

"We are calling on all populations to take back their time, space, the street, the city, and to torch everything that represents authority.

The city is us, it is not a prison belonging to capitalism."

Attack against the National Bank in Montreal

Corner of Ontario and Valois, the night of March 15-16, 2008

The three automatic tellers of this branch were smashed before being set on fire.

This action was not mentioned in the mass media and the National Bank attempted to hide the damage as quickly as possible. We suspect the authorities are trying to cover up the facts so as not to create panic amongst the citizens.

We acted following the torching of the parking lot of neighbourhood station 23. Like the *Collectif Ton Pere* ["Your Father Collective"], we are acting against the state, Capital and private property, which perpetuate oppression, destruction and alienation. We are also in solidarity with Native struggles, specifically in the context of the 2010 Olympics.

Even if the National Bank is not an official partner (as is the case with the Royal Bank), a bank is still a bank!

Let's not forget that the police and the banks reinforce each other.

Collectif Ton Oncle



Setting fire to the Hochelaga police station parking lot

The night of March 13-14, 2008

Six police cars caught fire at Station 23, on the corner of Hochelaga and Aird. These are actions against the greater and greater levels of oppression in the neighbourhood and everywhere where exploitation exists and reproduces itself.

We are acting in solidarity with Native political prisoners in America who are still struggling for their freedom and their autonomy.

We are calling on all populations to take back their time, space, the street, the city, and to torch everything that represents authority.

The city is us, it is not a prison belonging to capitalism.

We are not slaves, and yet we build their houses, their banks, their roads, we look after their children and serve them their coffee every morning, we pick the fruit and vegetables that they eat…

The least we can do is to set fire to their cars, SUVs, police cars, their new real estate developments, their big houses, their hotels, expose them publicly for who they are…

The least we can do is to abolish them!!

In the same way, we would like to specify that we support all armed struggle for autonomy and we invite all people to act and to examine their own past and their own role in order to become more connected to the communities which are struggling to get by, and to struggle against all forms of oppression.

Torch the capitalist system, that creator of corpses!

Collectif Ton Père

CN rail line blocked

May 2010

Overnight April 30-May 1st, the CN rail lines just west of Montreal were blocked so as to stymie regular rail traffic along one of the busiest sections of rail in the country.

These rails are an integral part of the underpinnings of a world we hate, built by the colonizers who introduced judges, police, and their prisons to this land. We approach this and other bedrocks of capital with an eye for destruction: for every rail blocked, a camera smashed. For every cop car put to ruin, a prison razed.

We are inspired in part by the handful of other rail blockades in the Montreal-Toronto corridor in the last few years, although ours are different in form.

From coast to coast, we will act on the desires we feel in the pit of our stomachs, in the cockles of our hearts, until the rush of our longing to put an end to this world of cages and surveillance washes the freight train of social control into the sea.

Mazda dealership and Bell Canada vans attacked

March 2008

Around 23 cars at a Mazda dealership in Prefontaine had their tires slashed, along with 2 Bell Canada vans sitting in the neighborhood.

We act in solidarity with the inspiring actions taken a few days earlier against police cars and a bank.

The police are scared, the capitalists are scared, but no one else seems to mind the fires breaking out in their neighbourhoods.

The media tell us that the police are worried for their "citizens," but the ones who are targeted are not citizens.

They do not live with reoccuring debt, with an escalating rent caused by condo development and gentrification, they do not live under the constant threat of eviction or with the choice of either feeding their kids or paying the bills…

They are the ones bringing us the eviction notices, they are the ones arriving in uniform to force us from our homes, they are the ones who harrass us when we can't pay the bills or the debt or the grocery bill…

As our comrades stated before, WE ARE THIS CITY and these capitalist and power driven pieces of shit are not welcome here!

Tomorrow 23 less cars will have a chance to drive around the super-highways that expand capital onto native territory and into undeveloped space: serving nothing but this system that threatens our lives every day.

We hope that the two Bell vans we disabled might keep your cable offline long enough to get the media, mouthpiece of this social order, out of your lives for a day.

In solidarity with every prisoner, native and rebel alike.

The real criminals have yet to taste our collective rage!

Ton Chien

"EVERY POLICE CAR THAT IS PUT OUT OF SERVICE IS ONE LESS CAR THAT CAN DRIVE THE GUNS OF THE STATE TO THEIR NEXT EXECUTION. IT'S ONE LESS POLICE CAR THAT CAN DRIVE AN ASSHOLE AROUND TO HARASS THE UNDESIRABLES IN THE NEIGHBOURHOODS THAT ARE GETTING GENTRIFIED... IMPRISONMENT, LIKE EXPLOITATION, ENDS WHEN THE PLACES, TOOLS AND PEOPLE THAT CARRY IT OUT ARE PUT "OUT OF SERVICE."

– Measuring the Meaning of a March, in March, in Montreal

SOLIDARITY WITH THE G20 PRISONERS!



December 2011

Two banners were hung in Montréal in solidarity with the G20 prisoners. ***solidarity with the g20 prisoners / tear down the prison walls*** was hung from a building on St. Catherine street downtown. ***solidarité avec les incarcéré.e.s du g20 / propageons la révolte*** ["Solidarity with the G20 Prisoners / Let's Spread Revolt"] was hung in the Saint-Henri neighborhood. Flyers were scattered at both sites, and further distributed in the métro system and on the street in the following days. We hope this counter-information action brings a smile to our locked up comrades. *Text from the flyer:*

SOLIDARITY AND COMPLICITY WITH THE G20 PRISONERS!

It has now been almost a year and a half since the mobilization against the G20 in Toronto that witnessed the largest mass arrest in Canadian history. A $1 billion security operation caged over 1100 people over the course of a weekend in order to defend a meeting of the bureaucrats from the richest capitalist economies. A group of individuals, many using the black bloc tactic (wearing masks and black clothing), nonetheless broke this militarized social peace; a peace that exists to keep us obedient and passive so that capital can flow smoothly. The large breakaway demonstration attacked corporate property and the police, liberating space from the control of authority and targeting places of capital for destruction. What more human response could there be to a financial district—an urban space devoid of life, deprived of affordable rents, scoured of autonomous livelihoods, subordinated to the needs of traffic and commerce, held under the eye of surveillance cameras, occupied by police, and plagued with corporate outlets and banks—than to destroy it?

The day before the demonstration, twenty organizers were rounded up and charged with criminal conspiracy for planning the disruption of the summit. This vague charge is increasingly being used against anarchists and is essentially used for "thought crime". After over a year of non-association conditions, pre-trial detention, house arrest, and a publication ban, six people took a plea deal to lesser charges in which the rest of their co-accused charges were dropped in November 2011. Mandy Hiscocks, Alex Hundert, and Leah Henderson are expecting sentences between 10 and 16 months. Peter Hopperton, Erik Lankin, and Adam Lewis are currently serving jail sentences of 3-5.5 months. Others face prison time for alleged participation in the riot.

Innocence and guilt mean nothing to those who understand law as a structure that does not keep us safe, but that keeps us in line. In the words of the conspiracy defendants, "There is no victory in the courts...The legal system exists to protect Canada's colonial and capitalist social structure." To consider questions of guilt or innocence is to indulge in all the hypocrisy of a judge, a prosecutor, or a cop. It doesn't matter that most of these people were already arrested when the property destruction occurred, and it doesn't matter that they didn't lead any conspiracies because anarchists don't have leaders. What matters

is that when all those workers died, when all those people were evicted, when all that money was taken from us by the banks, when all those bombs fell, when all that air and water were poisoned, it didn't matter whether rules were broken or followed. To speak of rules and laws is to perpetuate one of the greatest lies of our society.

Repression is the inevitable consequence of living under capital and the state, whether in a democracy or dictatorship, because few are fully blind to the domination around them and many are willing to fight back against it. To combat this social unrest, the state responds with repression. Many systems of oppression target various identities daily for being a potential enemy to the social order; whether colonized, genderqueer, or not white, to name a few. Imprisonment is structured to perfect control over anybody who's locked up, and manifests itself outside its walls as a threat towards those whose privileges don't fool them into identifying with power. Repression tries to prevent us from making the all-too-sensible decision to revolt against the systems that destroy our lives and future.

The new omnibus "tough on crime" bill is an intensification of social control, as is the federal prison expansion that will see expansions at 36 federal prisons between now and 2014, along with provincial prison expansions in every province. Correctional Services Canada will be the largest building contractor by 2012. The Montréal police even have a new "anti-gang" police squad, GAMMA, dedicated to the surveillance and repression of anarchists and other "marginal movements".

Prison is the concrete intensification of the alienation, isolation, and exploitation that surrounds us in our daily lives. With a desire for freedom comes the simple realization that prisons, and the world that needs them, must be attacked with revolutionary intentions. The urgency for rebellion makes itself even clearer when the state is tightening its grip on our throats in times of austerity.

As anarchists, we understand solidarity as lying in action. When we act we expand our own freedom as well. When the state takes anarchists and other rebels captive in its cages of democracy, revolutionary solidarity involves continuing the struggle that they are imprisoned for. Solidarity with prisoners in struggle should not be due to debt or sacrifice, but because our own liberation is intrinsically tied with their liberation and the destruction of prison. By actively pushing their struggles forward outside the prison walls, our solidarity ensures that the state's attempts to intimidate and control us are only met with escalated resistance. Our struggles against the state and capital must grow into a force that their cages cannot contain.

Let's lose our fear, and spread rebellion against authority.
Prisoners to the streets!

Solidarity in action: rails blocked in Toronto

February 2012

Sometime earlier this week, we blocked 3 CN rail lines running east-west in Toronto. This small interruption to the flow of capital was taken in solidarity with all people fucked over by the state repression following the Toronto G20 in 2010.

The rail lines are also used by the GO train, which enables white flight out of Toronto, and contributes to the shitty expansion of the GTA.[1]

We see this act as a continuation of that same struggle for which so many have been imprisoned.

can't stop won't stop

with solidarity and love
some anarchists

1. Greater Toronto Area

"THESE RAILS ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE UNDERPINNINGS OF A WORLD WE HATE, BUILT BY THE COLONIZERS WHO INTRODUCED JUDGES, POLICE, AND THEIR PRISONS TO THIS LAND. WE APPROACH THIS AND OTHER BEDROCKS OF CAPITAL WITH AN EYE FOR DESTRUCTION: FOR EVERY RAIL BLOCKED, A CAMERA SMASHED. FOR EVERY COP CAR PUT TO RUIN, A PRISON RAZED."

member the 'flics assassins' graffiti campaign, and the dozen cruisers damaged in a St. Henri police station parking lot earlier this spring.[2]

This action, coming on the heels of the 20th anniversaries of the Standoff in the Pines at Oka and the Sex Garage riots in Montréal's gay village, only supplements a plucky struggle against the police. Continue the fightback.

some anarchists.

Bank trashed

July 2010

The Laurentian Bank was attacked in the middle of the night. The atms, windows and sign were smashed with a hammer and rocks. An attempt was also made to obscure one of their cameras with paint bombs. The words *solidarity with the g20 arrestees* were painted on the bank's wall.

Solidarity with the G20 resistance. Don't back down in the face of repression.

anarchists

RBC attacked in solidarity with the G20 prisoners

July 2010

On the night of Thursday, July 1, the windows of two atm's at the Royal Bank of Canada on the corner of Harvard and Monkland were smashed. This attack is in solidarity with comrades facing state repression from the G20 weekend.

Solidarity means attack, indeed. Toronto was not the beginning and it won't be the end.

don't fuck with us.
some anarchists

Sodexo attacked in Montreal

June 2010

In the early hours of June 7, some anarchists smashed the windows of a Sodexo office in Montreal. Sodexo is the parent company that makes food for Canadian prisons.

Prison is much more than four walls of a vile institution; prison as a condition is reflected and reproduced in the world that surrounds us.

It is the cameras on every street corner surveilling our comings and goings; it is the DNA and fingerprint databanks that record our most personal details; it is the borders and constant threat of detention and deportation that would keep us from freely choosing where we want to live.

To Sodexo (and all others that contribute to the upkeep and functioning of prisons) we say screw you and your choice of ham and cheese or peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, when what we really want is to burn the prisons to the ground.

with love and solidarity.
anarchists

2. "In what may have been a precursor to Monday's planned march against police brutality, vandals struck a police station in St. Henri Saturday, damaging 11 patrol cars, computers in the vehicles and defacing the station itself. No one was in the building at the time, but residents nearby saw 15 to 20 masked people throw rocks and use sticks to shatter the windows and damage the computers of all 11 patrol cars parked in the station parking lot, Montreal police Constable Yannick Ouimet said. They also broke some windows of the station itself and scrawled graffiti, or tagged, the building. The letters FTP and ACAB were marked on the station, police said." - Montreal Gazette

Banners hung in solidarity with anarchists on hunger strike in Chile

April 2011

Three banners were hung in Montreal in solidarity with the 14 anarchists in Chile and the hungerstrike since February 21st. In addition, hundreds of fliers were scattered at each banner drop with info about their situation.

Public Security Ministry vehicles vandalized

March 2011

Several vehicles belonging to the Public Security Ministry of Québec were doused in paint stripper and had their tires slashed. This ministry oversees the provincial prisons and police forces.

Big ups to people who have been out on the streets in this city recently in solidarity with arrested anarchists and against the police, and also to people engaging in struggles against the police in Seattle and the Pacific Northwest.

Two security companies attacked

March 2011

Windows were smashed and paint was thrown on the walls and surveillance cameras of two security companies in Montréal. One company was attacked for its role in the installation of CCTV cameras and the other because it trains security agents. Take aim and target those complicit in the maintenance of this society of domination.

Solidarity to the North West US in their struggle against the pigs and to Montréal-area anarchists facing state repression.

anarchists

Bell vehicles vandalized

December 2010

In December 2005, Mohamed Anas Bennis was shot by the Montréal police outside a Bell building on his way home from morning prayers at a mosque. Cameras on the Bell building captured the entire scene, but Bell refuses to make the footage available to the public inquiry at the behest of the SPVM.

In memory of Anas Bennis, approximately twelve Bell vehicles were covered in paint stripper and had their tires slashed. No more police killings, no more police.

Sodexo factory attacked

December 2010

On a recent evening the Sodexo factory in Montreal was attacked with rocks and spraypaint.

Sodexo is a company which manufactures and distributes food to prisons across Canada.

This act is a retaliation against the industry and apparatus of imprisonment but also an expression of solidarity, with all prisoners but especially with Roger Clement, recently sentenced to 3.5 years for an attack on a Royal Bank of Canada, John Graham, an indigenous prisoner against the colonial state and Giannis Dimitrakis, jailed in Greece for his activity as an anarchist against the state, serving 25 years.

anarchists

Russian embassy attacked

November 2010

The Russian Embassy in Montréal had its windows smashed and paint thrown against its facade. This action took place during the days of solidarity called for between November 12 to 15 in solidarity with those facing repression of the aftermath of the militant defense of the Khimki old growth forest in Russia.

Freedom for ALL prisoners, from Russia to Canada

anarchists

Montreal Royal Canadian Mounted Police station vandalized

July 2010

The other night, we attacked an RCMP (national police force) station in St. Henri, Montréal. It almost goes without saying that we did this because we hate the police, and we certainly aren't alone in this hatred. Let's cast our minds back to 2006, when a handful of stolen cars were driven through police station windows, or to spring 2008, when half a dozen SPVM cars were set ablaze just before the annual International Day Against Police Brutality march and another dozen were lit off when the Habs lost a crucial game in the playoffs. Recall the street battles at every March 15th demo, where people come out in thousands and some fight cops, break windows, build barricades, and wreak havoc. Keep in mind the Montreal North riots in 2008 after Fredy Villanueva was killed by the pigs. Re-





Guelph, ON: Paint bomb attack on Royal Bank of Canada (RBC)

Around March 15, 2012, we paid a visit to the Willow West RBC branch and attacked both drive-thru ATMs with paint bombs. We have nothing but contempt for these capitalist institutions that uphold and perpetuate the forced conditions and misery of this society. Let us not forget (nor forgive!) that it is largely the banks that act as financial advisors as well as directly finance the state's projects and systems of social control. For example, RBC currently has its greasy paws in the Toronto South Detention Centre in Mimico, Ontario, acting as the financial advisor to ITS (EllisDon & Fengate Capital) who are constructing the prison.

This small gesture of revolt is dedicated to all of the G20 prisoners/defendants & to ALL of the imprisoned international anti-authoritarians – especially the dignified Luciano "Tortuga" Pitronello.

Solidarity is our strength!
In resistance to state & capital!

- Revolutionary Anarchists

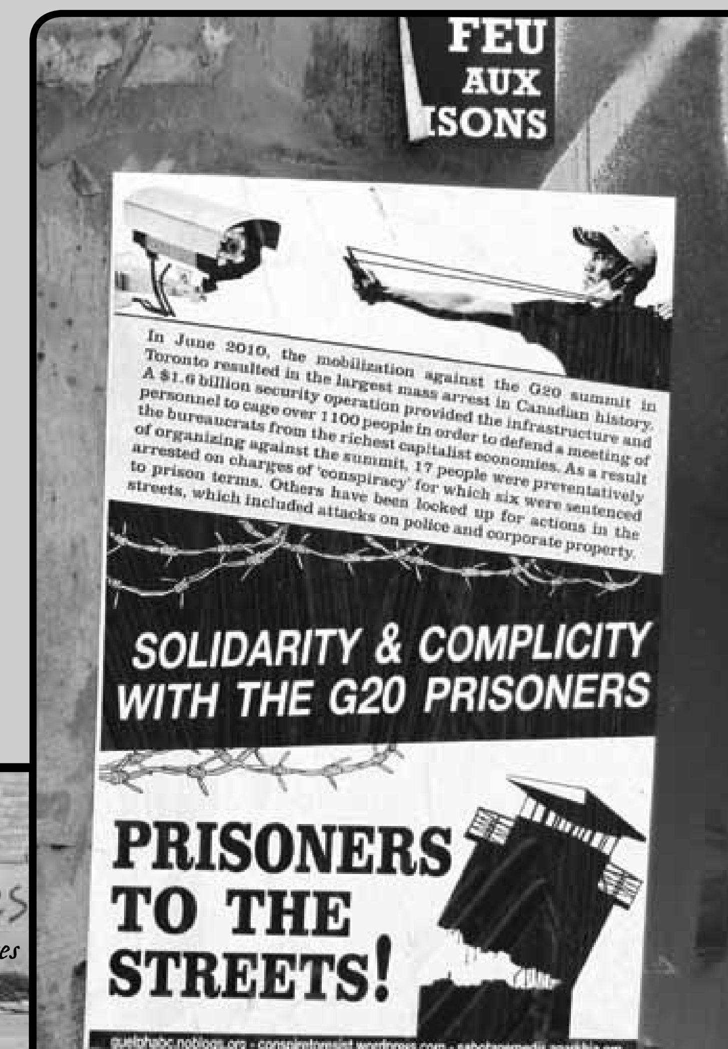


Destroy Power and its judges

Solidarity in the streets with the G20 prisoners!

The month of June 2012 marks two years since the G20 summit in Toronto and the courageous resistance shown to it. It also marks the sentencing of our comrade Charles Bicari to seven months behind bars for smashing the windows of two police cars, two stores, and an ATM with a hammer. To mark the occasion, we spent a few evenings spreading anti-system and solidarity slogans with the G20 prisoners in the streets of Montréal.

Continued solidarity with the G20 prisoners!
No comrades left in the enemy's prisons without a response!



On solidarity with "social movements" - open letter to anarchists

This reflection seemed important to us because we see many opportunities presenting themselves around us which invite active and critical solidarity. This text echoes things that have already been said and which appear self-evident with a sense of self-critique, but we believe the time is right to repeat them.

Several opportunities have arisen to show solidarity with struggles which unfortunately remain specific, to share our global analysis of the connection we see between each of these specific struggles – that is to say, authority and its system of domination.

It is clear that, as anarchists, if we wait for a purely anarchist insurrection to emerge that we will then join, we may do just that; wait, bitter and cynical. Solidarity with those in struggle is important in several ways because, among others things, its formative dynamics allow us to test the social terrain and build relationships which break with ideological sectarianism. However, we aren't saying that we should lose ourselves, that we can't also have our own struggles or create moments and conditions of struggle which can also act as opportunities for creating space to meet others. We must avoid creating a dynamic where we are always the ones seeking out the struggles of others. We do not forget the importance of strengthening ourselves mutually.

Several comrades see, as we do, in the student struggle, in the Plan Nord[1], in the "austerity measures" and the accompanying momentary expressions of refusal from people, opportunities to intervene in a supportive and critical way, to share our perspective and our praxis, to not leave the terrain open to total Leftist and reformist recuperation of the widespread disgust towards the state of things that is accompanied by desires for something different.

It is more than clear that if, for example, we will (take the risk to) engage in demos like ***Charest Dégage*** of March 12, 2011 (where a dozen comrades spent the weekend in jail after they were arrested by police in collaboration with trade unionists), that of last November against rising tuition fees, or more recently during the blockade of the Stock Exchange Tower, it is certainly not because we adhere to the specific demands of the Left which organized these events. It would be absurd and simply ridiculous for anarchists to demand that the state improve. So what the fuck are we doing there? We want to bring our solidarity to those who reject the vision of the parasites with power, all the while sharing with them, in every way possible, our perspective and praxis. This said, simply going to hang out in a demo with black flags and shouting slogans between us has really limited effects on struggle.

In two recent articles, "Social movements block the Stock Exchange Tower" published by the comrades of the Québec City UCL and "Simultaneous demos in Jonquière against budget cuts and the privatization of public services" published by the comrades of the Saguenay UCL, one will notice the total absence of an anarchist perspective (it's important to clarify that our goal here is not to cast doubt on the intentions of our comrades of the UCL, but rather to put forward a critique and a sincere concern). The articles speak of the highlights of the day, the calls for reform from the "social movements", the fact that there was a black flag among the trade union flags, and in the text on Jonquière a position of the status quo is even adopted in declaring "we hope that this effort of solidarity... may continue to defend the rights and living conditions of the majority of the population, the working and less fortunate social classes". In both articles our comrades are manipulated into simply reproducing social-democratic values under the pretext of solidarity.

As anarchists we support taking action, in this case, the determined blocking of a clear target of world domination, and we support those who do not accept the conditions imposed on their lives, but we do not in any way support demands for reform; we want the total elimination of the state and economy. To not use such occasions to assert ourselves – to be clear about what our solidarity is based upon, to distance ourselves from the solutions proposed by the Left, awakening the memory that for anarchists, misery cannot be reformed – is simply letting the reformists speak for us while we parade in their processions holding black flags.

We see several comrades eager to act in solidarity with the student strike, and we can understand how some see it as a dynamic in which opportunities for solidarity, for finding each other, and for action are possible, but does that mean we will support the demands for reform, for improvements to the state, as radical as they could be? In this capacity, we take this opportunity to send a warm hug to our comrades who produce and propagate all the inspiring anarchist propaganda that has appeared recently about the strike.[2] This is one of many examples of how we can show solidarity with "social movements" without forgetting who we are.

If we pretend that we support what we do not – reforms, for example – out of fear of alienating "potentially revolu-

ACTION CHRONOLOGY
from 2008-2011

"We refuse to be complacent in the misery around us. The police are an occupying army in our streets and any act to further remove them from our lives warms our hearts."

Attack on condo developer's office in Montréal

July 2011

On the night of Thursday, July 14, we attacked a condo developer's office on the corner of Saint-Jaques and Bourget. We broke windows and threw paint at the building. Hopefully this action speaks for itself.

anarchists

Police cars attacked

May 2011

On the night of May 26, the cars in a police parking lot on rue Dollard were attacked with paint stripper. We refuse to be complacent in the misery around us. The police are an occupying army in our streets and any act to further remove them from our lives warms our hearts.

Much love to Theofilos Mavropoulos and prisoners everywhere, both inside and out, fighting for freedom.

onward the struggle.
some anarchists

Night of anarchist graffiti against the police

May 2011

On the night of May 15, several crews of anarchists in Montréal painted slogans on about three dozen walls throughout the city against the police and state as a modest act of solidarity with anarchists in Greece.

"flics-porcs-assassins Ⓐ *"all cops are bastards", "police sont meurtriers, souvenons de: fredy villeneuva, anas bennis,dudley george, tués par la police"*, and others.

Covering blank walls with our hate for the police spreads an easy, reproducible form of revolt against police control over the space in which we live through communicative signals of disorder.[1] This can play a small part in shifting the tone in our neighbourhoods from a space of work/consumption towards a space of consistent revolutionary anarchist activity; a project which Exarcheia provides ample inspiration for.

against the state and their dogs,
with love and in struggle,
some anarchists

Greek consulate disrupted in solidarity with anarchists and immigrants

May 2011

On Monday, May 16, a dozen people created a disruption at the Greek consulate in downtown Montréal located at 1002 Sherbrooke West on the 26th floor. We entered the office chanting slogans of solidarity to anarchists and immigrants facing heavy repression at the hands of the Greek state and organized fascists. Furniture and plants were overturned and hundreds of fliers were scattered. One office employee attempted to detain a comrade but failed. Outside people displayed a banner stating Ⓐ ***Flics-Porcs-Assassins, Solidarité contre la reprèssion d'État en Grèce*** ["Cops-Pigs-Murderers, Solidarity against the state repression in Greece"] and handed out fliers.

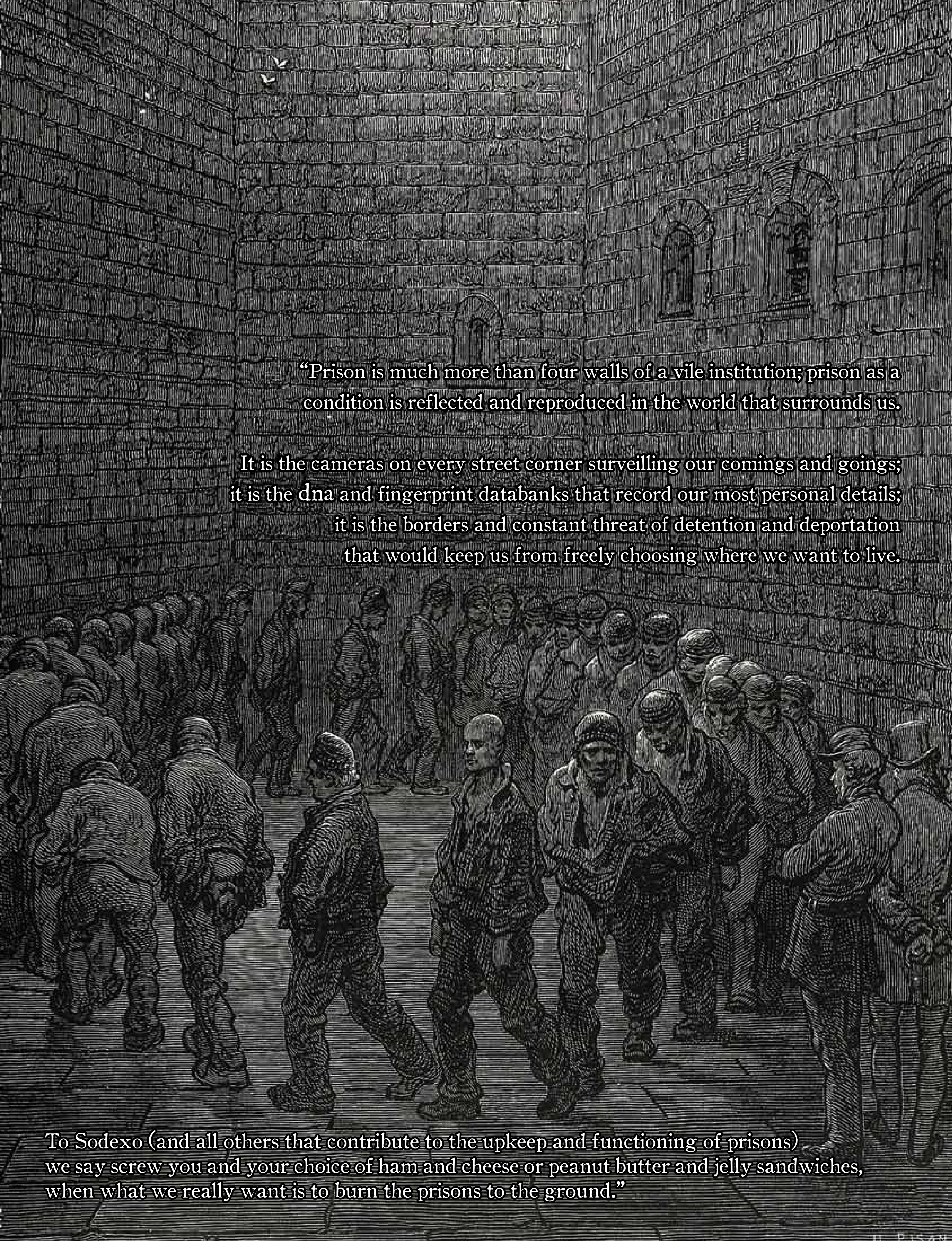
Desjardins bank attacked in solidarity with anarchists in Chile

April 2011

Over the week of April 14 to 21, a Desjardins bank had its windows smashed out. This was done as an act of solidarity with the imprisoned anarchists on hunger strike in Chile.

The strength and courage shown is a great inspiration. We are with you in struggle.

1. Presumably referencing *Signals of Disorder: Sowing Anarchy in the Metropolis* by A.G. Schwarz.



"Prison is much more than four walls of a vile institution; prison as a condition is reflected and reproduced in the world that surrounds us.

It is the cameras on every street corner surveilling our comings and goings; it is the dna and fingerprint databanks that record our most personal details; it is the borders and constant threat of detention and deportation that would keep us from freely choosing where we want to live.

To Sodexo (and all others that contribute to the upkeep and functioning of prisons) we say screw you and your choice of ham and cheese or peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, when what we really want is to burn the prisons to the ground."

tionary" people by exposing them too quickly to our "radicalism", it's because we do not have confidence in the strength of our ideas and so we deceive others (and ourselves) in order to swell our ranks with people who we ultimately do not really share ideas with. It's a purely quantitative logic and it's the preferred terrain of the system, the terrain on which control is based. Our strength lies not in numbers but in our determination and our complicity. For total liberation, full of complicity!

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1. Plan Nord: Québec's new plan to coordinate and promote large scale resource extraction (mining, hydro-electricity, and logging) of the indigenous territories in northern Québec.

2. One which was distributed widely was ***Blockade, Occupy, Strike Back: a collection of tactical knowledge for students and others.*** It includes tips on street demos, occupations, security awareness, and forming crews, with a recipe for paintbombs. PDF at ***grevemontreal.noblogs.org***



37 arrests in the occupation of Cégep du Vieux Montréal

- Solidarity with the arrested!

February 17, 2012

An indication of what we can expect from the various actors in this strike...

The administration of Cégep du Vieux Montréal refused students access to the Hall and the student union office and then called the cops when they nonetheless took what they considered theirs. Using all they had, these students then resisted the assault from the armed wing of vulturous power, ending in thirty-seven arrests and many serious charges. Their courage was instantly recompensated by the politicking words of student "leaders" seeking to defensively justify themselves while keeping distance from the events, concerned about what people might think of an action they had not condoned... Fortunately, there are those who don't give a shit about the disinformation media that will try to destroy them no matter how they act – some still remember to listen to their passions and instincts.

The determination seen in the occupation of Cégep du Vieux despite the onslaught of a group of armed sociopaths is inspiring. Whenever people are ready to take matters into their own hands, blustering Leftists will always emerge who will assert the senselessness of these actions – obviously because it escapes their control. The organizations of the Left want to avoid real confrontation with power because they are not mediators. It's not in the reigns of their control and therefore cannot serve their competition on the platforms of power; since they also compose a part of this structure and think in its terms. The only relations of force which are useful to actually change things are those which do not meet the criteria of the powerful.

The general assembly should not be a limit. Although the importance of people talking to each other is more than evident, this doesn't have to become a permanent debate and a search for a unifying consensus which in fact has the opposite effect; it alienates the diversity that is necessary if we want to be effective when it is time to pass to action. Complicity is where our strength lies!

To those who parrot the crap they hear on TV or the radio, of the type that there are people who are not even students who are taking part in the strike (ironically those reciting this are often the same ones who preoccupy themselves with "what people might think"), there is only one thing to say: all the better! That people feel impelled to join the students in struggle, that they unite their struggles and see beyond their own daily affairs is exactly what frightens all those who want to see this world stay the same. There is no complicity without solidarity!

Solidarity with all the arrestees! With all those who hold their heads high and defend themselves by passing to the attack! Your determination warms the heart!

Demand nothing, take everything!



Student action and demonstration against police

Act I

As the student strike in Québec develops, there have been weekly *manif-actions* ["action demos"] with the goal of economic disruption. Late yesterday morning [March 7], a manif-action was called to begin at 11:30 am at Square Victoria. There were several thousand people in the streets, some of them self-identified students, student politicians, and union members, many not of any particular status. The march went up to the Loto-Québec building on Sherbrooke and rue City Councillors and set up hard blockades of all the entrances around the building, effectively shutting it down. The building contains the offices of the organization representing university principals and rectors, which supports tuition hikes, and had also been occupied in March 2011. After maintaining a presence for a while, some people got inside the building while others began building barricades on Sherbrooke street using fences as a line of riot police began to assemble nearby. The police pepper sprayed demonstrators and threw sound grenades (and possibly tear gas) in the mass of people as they dismantled the fencing and pushed people back. Shrapnel from one of the canisters flew into one person's eye. He is now in a hospital and will likely lose his eye forever.

As the main demo got split up into three parts, people made an effort to stay together and hold the street. The three demos managed to continue and regrouped into one, and then headed east towards the Jacques-Cartier bridge. The bridge was swarming with police by the time the demo approached, so we figured we'd let the police do the blocking for us and continued at a jog to the Ministry of Education building, as projectiles were thrown at a few bike cops. As several bureaucrats scurried out of the building, the demo blocked the entrance for 10 minutes, then swung around back west along the Notre-Dame highway. An attempt was made to occupy the SAQ headquarters (the state liquor control and sales board of Québec). People made it into the lobby of the building but because the doors to go further were locked, the demo continued westward. It stopped at the Hydro-Québec building, where people chanted ***pour une monde libertaire, sans plan nord ni frais scolaires*** ["for a liberated world, without either the Plan Nord[1] nor tuition fees"]. Soon after the demo dispersed by collectively hopping the métro together.

Act II

After the demo dispersed, it wasn't until the evening that word had spread about the tragic outcome of earlier that day.[2] A solidarity demonstration was spontaneously called for at Berri Square at 9 pm. A hundred and some people gathered here and left promptly, after yelling down self-appointed leaders who wanted the demonstration to be "media friendly". It took rue Sainte-Catherine first and moved its way through downtown towards the Sainte-Urbain police headquarters, while some people threw up anti-police graffiti including ***flics=assassins***. When it got to the headquarters, people attacked its windows with glass bottles, metal garbage cans, and fences, which the pacifists were quick to pounce on. As a line of riot police formed on the north side of the headquarters, the demonstration headed south towards René-Lévesque and then back up rue Saint-Laurent. As people gathered information to determine where to go, the decision was made to head towards the police station on the corner of Rue Saint-Élisabeth and René-Lévesque. The front of the demo hurried south down Saint-Élisabeth towards the station while the police formed a line blocking the back of the demo from advancing. At the front, one cop car was guarding the intersection at René-Lévesque and as about a dozen people rushed at it, the cruiser backed out and drove off, leaving the intersection momentarily free of police. People took this opportunity to graffiti the cruisers in the parking lot, as well as break the windows of several police cars. Projectiles and insults were hurled at the unprepared cops as they drove up and scurried to don their riot gear.

For a moment, bodies occupied the entire eight lanes of René-Lévesque as people hurried to make the decision of whether to turn back to downtown or disperse. Some people decided to return to the larger demo and managed to rejoin it at Saint-Catherine while others dispersed here.

At this point the demo began to head north on Saint-Denis. Some people in the crowd severely beat up a person with a camera who was taking pictures of them, as others tried to diminish the scuffle. The police blocked off the main intersection of Ontario and rue Saint-Denis, and before anyone had time to come up with any quick plan of action, recycling bins were strewn into the street. Bottles

THEY ACCEPTED THE AUTHORITY OF A VOTE INSTEAD OF TAKING ACTION THAT THEY KNEW WAS SENSIBLE AND NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN THE COLLECTIVE POWER OF THE STRIKE. DEMOCRACY, WHICH IS ALWAYS AUTHORITARIAN, IS IN DIRECT OPPOSITION TO BOTH INDIVIDUAL AND COLLECTIVE SELF-DETERMINATION.

native to the misery of a capitalist society, that much is clear, but there are some very distinct ideological differences between the political parties vying for power in this province, not least of which is their position on Québec's status within Canada – which, if changed, would have vast consequences for this society at large and those of us fighting the good fight in the social war.[1] Every anarchist's favourite anti-voting maxim can probably still describe accurately the situation in the vast majority of the world's representative democracies, but because of the sovereignty question and several other reasons, there are probably few places in the world where those words are less true than they are here.

Another thing: for all of the talk of a larger social struggle against austerity and global neoliberalism or whatever, the *raison d'être* for the strike was to stop Charest's tuition hikes. Tuition became an election issue as a result of the strike, and now the Parti Québécois says it is going to cancel the hikes if it gets elected – a promise that many think, rightly or wrongly, it would be hard for the PQ to break. What anarchists are recommending, *don't vote,* doesn't communicate anything to many militants because what those militants want is a postsecondary education system that will remain geared towards the creation of workers for a capitalist economy, but which will be free and funded by *the government.* The logic and aspirations behind not voting is significantly different. When anarchists recommend economic disruption, it's even more alien, because they think (perhaps rightly) that chaos in the streets will simply help Charest get re-elected.

Finally, an election in a time of political crisis is one of the best weapons against confrontational and uncompromising social movements. The best example is probably de Gaulle calling an election after May '68. It knocks movements out, sucking away their energy and diverting it into the electoral sphere. Along with threats of expulsion, threats of fines, and more, that's what's happening right now. But if we can get ourselves together again after September 4, it will be awhile, at least, before this particular weapon can be used against us again.

Of course, it's worth noting that there were still several thousand militants – maybe more – who were *not* dissuaded by the idea of an electoral truce nor any of the other tactics employed by the state to destroy the movement. They were ready to fight, *and yet it didn't happen.* Why? It's not because direct democracy proved itself a loyal defender of representative democracy this week, although that is true. It is because militants, by and large, *accepted these directly democratic votes as legitimate and final.* They accepted the authority of a vote instead of taking action that they knew was sensible and necessary to maintain the collective power of the strike. Democracy, which is *always* authoritarian, is in direct opposition to both individual and collective self-determination.

So we are also to blame for this situation, which is unambiguously a failure and a setback. And to be clear, we fucked up a while ago. After the Special Law was passed, we weren't organized or clever enough to keep the struggle going strong into the summer. When the movement as a whole hesitated, we chose to wait for it rather than making a quick return to the affinity-based organizing that we used before the strike. If CLASSE becomes an engine for a strike once again, then great; we can capitalize on the momentum it creates like we did in the spring. If it doesn't, we make momentum of our own – even if that means a retreat into smaller-scale organizing, where we're probably more effective anyway.

If some of these critiques hit home, think about them and talk to your friends about them. It's time to keep fighting. And next time a call for an international convergence gets circulated, let's make sure that we have our shit together.

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1. To be clear, we are against nationalism. We are simply acknowledging that a situation where the provincial government is at odds with the federal government would create a different situation from the current one, that sovereignty would create an even bigger one, and that this situation means something for people engaged in struggle in this territory. Some examples: property values in Montréal could drop significantly (as happened around the 1995 referendum), there could be more economic instability, there would almost certainly be more social strife (including a possible increase in fascist activities), the police could become less efficient, it would be easier and more relevant to critique nationalist discourses, and so on. It's impossible to predict what might happen, but these are possibilities.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17.

There's not much to say. The votes started in the morning at both Saint-Laurent and Cégep du Vieux, and solidarity demonstrations were already in place to meet people as they came in the doors of the schools. They didn't have the desired effect. The assemblies dragged on for several excruciating hours, emotions ran high, people yelled at each other, the continuation of the strike was voted down at both schools, and awful liberals said some bullshit about how "our movement isn't over, it will emerge even more powerful after September 4…"

The administrations at both schools had, of course, lied to the students and told them that, if the strike continued, they would all fail their semesters and there would be no hope for anyone's academic record.



For the anarchists who sat through the whole process, it was emotionally debilitating. People were sad. Alcohol was consumed.

CONCLUSION:
CRISIS, DEMOCRACY, AND MISTAKES.

To be sad right now is understandable. The idea that the spirit of April might be recreated in August, a hope to which many militants have clung since the movement progressively lost its momentum in May and June, is now understood to be false. The spring is over. It will never happen again. This is the essence of tragedy: the total and irrevocable loss of something that once was. All we have left is riot porn and good stories.

Québec's crisis isn't over, though. In fact, it has only just begun, because while the austerity measures that the provincial government is implementing right now are being decried as drastic and sudden by the Left in this province, the federal government's plans will be much faster and have a much greater impact on the lives of people who live here. The federal equalization arrangement, which transfers money from "have" provinces like Alberta to "have not" provinces like Québec, must be renegotiated by 2014. The Conservative government in Ottawa, no longer constrained by a minority status, will finally be able to change things to its liking. In one way or another, the relatively functional Québécois welfare state is going to end, but this will simply increase the popular rage that was the engine of the springtime strike.

Whichever government comes to power on September 4, it is inheriting a powder keg that is about to explode. Anarchists in Montréal should be excited – but there is no doubt that, at this very moment, the situation isn't very attractive.

One problem is that we're taking things personally. The movement has turned to politicians who cynically wore the red square in a ploy to win power, thereby rejecting us, the anarchists who have been a passionate and risk-taking part of this movement from before the strike started! But the simple fact is that anarchist ideas in general, and the anti-electoral ideas that we specifically share with certain types of party communists, remain marginal within the student movement. Democratic ideology and mythology, on the other hand, remain very influential.

It is important for anarchists to recognize that, when Emma Goldman said that the ruling class would make voting illegal if it actually changed anything, she was making her comments in a very different political context than the one in which we are struggling in Québec. To say that the outcome of the election will have no effect here is absurd on the face of it. No politician is offering any alter-

fell first to the ground, then were thrown at the line of riot cops at the end of the street. At this point, the pacifist portion of the demo (?!) began booing at the people throwing bottles, explaining that this is a peaceful demonstration. The next three minutes diminished into the crowd engaging in shouting arguments, pushing each other and getting up in each other's shit over the merits of violence and the explicit "peacefulness" of the demo.

At this point, sensing an impending mass arrest, many people ditched out over a high fence, leaving the pacifists to fend for themselves. As people were dispersing a small group stayed there picking up the trash and put it back into the recycling bin, 10 yards from the line of riots cops at which the bottles had just been thrown.

Several minutes later in the same spot from which people had just dispersed, riot police began to clear the streets pushing everyone out and ending whatever was left of the demonstration.

Endnotes
(stop here if you're sick of reading about pacifists)

A continuing problem of the student movement is the way that university activism seems to breed pacifists in the same way it breeds politicians and bosses. The student strike to this point has been centred around demonstrations and actions of thousands of people gathering in the streets with nothing to do but stare at itself. Now, when the police have seriously wounded a comrade, we see tensions rise as the student movement has to deal with itself and its place in society. In this situation, no longer was the issue about "the issues", so well laid out and articulated with the appropriate politician to be blamed and the solution devised through funding alternatives (such as the Plan Nord, as one member of ASSÉ[3] suggested). The issue becomes the reality of engaging against power, outside of the classroom, when the sense of ownership and entitlement of one's struggle is challenged. The student struggle has now exited the world of liability to administration and academic probation and has begun to engage society as a whole.

Last night, race and class dynamics emerged in the way different people engaged in their response. At one particular point it was hard to ignore how a primarily white group of pacifists were actively trying to hold back a crew of young people of colour who were confronting the police (with other people in the middle trying to get the pacifists to back off). This was obviously not the only dynamic in the demo – there were different crews of people there and throughout the evening a mixed crowd of people engaged in confronting the police – but as an anarchist participating in the demonstration, this was a particularly striking situation. At the point in which some began picking up bottles and throwing them at the police, the pacifists, by trying to prevent this, acted more effectively at breaking up the demo than the police did. Nothing in the world around us can honestly be called peaceful, and the height of irony is a pacifist throwing punches trying to convince another otherwise.

1. Plan Nord: Québec's new plan to coordinate and promote large scale resource extraction (mining, hydro-electricity, and logging) of the indigenous territories in northern Québec.

2. He did in fact lose his eye.

3. ASSÉ: The *Association pour une solidarité syndicale étudiante*, which is one of the more 'radical' provincial federations of student unions. A member of ASSÉ once suggested to the media that free education can be funded with the Plan Nord.







Wild demo, citizen-cops, solidarity with the Innu, and the pigs' revenge

On Monday, March 12, a chain of events spanned the whole day until late into the night.

It all began early in the day with a demo in solidarity with the Innu people who recently suffered repression from the SQ (the provincial police, the Sûreté du Québec, literally meaning "the safety of Québec") in their blockade of Highway 138 against the Hydro-Québec projects on their land. The demo of about 150 people left from Square Phillips at around 12:30 to go in front of the offices of Hydro-Québec (where cops were already blocking the doors), chanting slogans like ***plan nord, plan de la mort*** ["North Plan, Death Plan"], ***ni patrie, ni état, ni québec, ni canada*** ["No country, nor state, no Québec, nor Canada"] while distributing leaflets about the Plan Nord to passersbys. After a few speeches, the crowd moved to the administrative offices of Université du Québec à Montréal (UQÀM) and from this point onwards the street in front of the building was occupied by a continuously growing crowd – in reaction to the news of the lockout of UQÀM – up until when the "Night of Creation" event kicked off.

During this "Night of Creation", some painted on the street, others played music, and the local band Mise en Demeure played a full set of songs making fun of pacifists and cops. Many were drinking beer while sitting on the furniture which had been brought into the street from the UQÀM building: chairs, desks, tables and sofas.

Around 11 pm, tensions started to rise as several citizen-cops attempted to clean up and enforce the law by "putting things back in place" as others kept taking the furniture out into the street. A person pulled chairs from the hands of a hooded comrade and tried to pull their mask off, which landed them with a well-deserved punch to the face. It's simple: if you act like cops, you are joining the enemy so you will be treated as such. Wanna play cops? Face the consequences.

After a short confrontation between the citizen-cops and some hooded ones, a crowd of about 200 people broke off and zigzagged through the streets of downtown shouting anti-pacifist slogans and leaving many walls and a cop car covered in anti-police and anarchist graffiti. When the crowd arrived near the building of *La Presse* (the bourgeois, reactionary newspaper), its windows were shattered to bits and yet again a citizen-cop or undercover cop – the only difference being their wage – attacked a hooded comrade from behind, but this time the hooded ones fought back collectively and, defending their comrade, repelled the attack. The crowd then dispersed not long after without any arrests, although there are rumors that one person was arrested during the demo.

A bit later at around 1 am, about fifteen people who were hanging out drinking beer in a collective space received a visit from an entire squad of cops. The situation quickly escalated after someone was apparently seen by the pigs with a bottle of beer outside. As if it were a raid, many people were pepper sprayed while about twenty cops rushed in aggressively with batons in hand, some in riot gear, and with a dog. There were five arrests.[1] Outside, the riot squad was deployed for dispersing the people who had gathered at the street corner.

Social war and complicity!
Citizen-cops FUCK OFF!

[1] The five people are on trial over arrests in the collective space during the night of Monday to Tuesday. They were released on Wednesday afternoon [March 14] with a curfew from 10 pm to 7 am. They no longer have the right to find themselves in a large area bordered by Sherbrooke, Notre-Dame, Saint-Laurent, and Papineau (except for one of them living inside the area) nor to drink alcohol. They are charged with obstructing police and intimidation of a person of the justice system. A 50-person demonstration of solidarity was held during their court appearance.

A lot of effort had been put into organizing a morning solidarity demonstration at Marie-Vic; the cégep is difficult to reach from downtown neighbourhoods via public transportation. The hope was that students voting in the general assembly would see that there would be outside support if they decided to continue the strike – and, in fact, if the strike had gone favourably, all of those people would have been useful for the immediate task of building barricades and shutting down classes. That it went the way it did was disappointing, but ultimately not surprising. Along with Édouard-Montpetit and the other schools that had already voted to cancel the strike, Marie-Vic's militant culture is less developed than other schools, and even during the strike, the margins of votes to continue the strike were sometimes pretty slim.





Maisonneuve, however, was shocking. During the spring, this school – located in Hochelaga, a very proletarian neighbourhood in the east of the city with a large anarchist population, some of whom are students at the cégep – had one of the most militant student associations of all, organizing actions like port blockades and constantly engaged to keep the school shut down. During the weekend, a representative from that student association had informed the CLASSE congress that, if riot cops were brought onto the campus at any point, the professors would immediately resign en masse. There was a solidarity demonstration organized by the Hochelaga APAQ (*assemblée populaire et autonome du quartier,* "popular and autonomous neighbourhood assembly"), but in comparison to Marie-Vic, people felt that the vote was a pretty safe bet in favour of continuing the strike. They were wrong.

The administrations at both Marie-Vic and Maisonneuve had canceled classes on Monday, not as a sign of solidarity with the process of student democracy, but in an effort to make sure that anti-strike students – who might otherwise have been attending classes – could go to the assemblies in large numbers. Ultimately, though, it wasn't the definitively anti-strike and pro-hike students who decided things, certainly not at militant Maisonneuve where they are a rather insignificant minority. Most students have chosen the strategic direction that Pauline Marois and Léo Bureau-Blouin have been advocating: *trêve électorale* (election-time truce) instead of *grève générale* (general strike).

The general assembly at Cégep du Vieux started later, and it was still going on when crowds started assembling nearby at Berri Square for the first night demonstration of the *rentrée*. This was a militant and angry crowd. It marched to, and through, the cégep, and then it returned to the streets – launching fireworks at police, breaking four bank windows in total, painting graffiti, ransacking a construction site for barricade materials, the usual. Some people actually threw things from their apartment windows at the demonstrators, which enraged people a good bit.

Although the crowd wasn't particularly big, the SPVM was hesitant to break it up too forcefully, presumably because the force didn't want to influence the ongoing assembly's vote against the interests of social peace. Around 10:00 pm, it was determined by less than twenty votes that Vieux would remain on strike. Only after everything was done at the cégep did the police move in to disperse the crowd more forcefully around 11:00 pm.

Monday proved to be the most exciting day of the convergence.

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY.

On Tuesday and Wednesday respectively, there were two morning manif-actions – so described not because they were promoted as such, but because what else starts before 8:00 am? The one on Tuesday started downtown, and it is unclear what happened; there probably weren't enough people to pull off anything worth writing about. The other, Wednesday's, met up at the eastern end of southwest Montréal's proletarian Pointe-Saint-Charles neighbourhood. For as long as possible, which wasn't actually very long, the small crowd hung around the intersection of rues Bridge and Wellington, impeding the movement of early morning rush-hour traffic coming off the Victoria Bridge. This was organized by the Pointe's APAQ.

On the front of student democracy, things continued to worsen. The loss of most individual cégeps was neither surprising nor particularly painful, but collectively, it looked like a huge problem. After Collège Ahuntsic, the last "radical" school that had yet to vote, canceled its strike, Saint-Laurent and Cégep du Vieux were the only schools with effective strike mandates. This changed, however, as students at both schools collected signatures on petitions and forced new votes on Friday.

Meanwhile, night demonstrations kept happening, and they were sometimes loud and spirited, but they didn't disrupt anything more than traffic.

REPORT: Convergence for the Rentrée

This is a report on the convergence in Montréal from August 13 to August 17. The TL;DR version is that it failed. Readers from Montréal may want to skip to the conclusion for the aftergame analysis.

SOME CONTEXT.

In late May, the Liberal government of Québec abruptly cancelled classes at striking universities and cégeps across the province, ending the already extended semesters and stipulating that classes would be completed during a *special semester* in August and September. With a few exceptions, notably the weekend that the law was passed and the weekend of the Canadian Grand Prix in early June, the government decree was generally effective at ending confrontation and economic disruption in the streets of Montréal for the summer.

The strike was at its most powerful in April, when *manif-actions*, demonstrations, and acts of sabotage were at their most frequent. These actions seriously interfered with the normal functioning of the capitalist economy in Montréal, but the reason they were able to happen is because many schools were shut down entirely. If some students were simply boycotting classes without blocking other students' access to class, those who chose to participate in actions that improve the movement's *rapport de force* with the government would have been at greater personal risk in terms of their financial situation, their immigration status, and numerous other factors. For the movement to again become a large and confrontational force in August, it would be imperative to effectively block classes. In fact, there was a lot of reason to think that the police would try to kill this second phase of the movement in its cradle by preventing any sort of blockade at the schools.

In early July, it was decided at a meeting organized by the Comité Grève Sociale (Social Strike Committee) that, for the week starting on Monday, August 13, there should be an *international convergence* to block the return to classes at cégeps in the Montréal area. Fatefully, it was decided that action would only be taken to block classes if a particular school's student association voted to renew the strike. People immediately began putting energy into external promotion of the convergence, organizing meet-up centres, building websites, writing flyers, arranging housing and transportation, and making more specific plans for the week of August 13 with their neighbourhood assemblies.

In the absence of a strong and coherent strategic direction from CLASSE, and without yet any initiatives from the neighbourhood assemblies that the movement as a whole could plug into, the convergence strategy became the *only* strategy around which Montréal's militants could collectively get excited and start organizing.

PRIOR EVENTS.

The night demonstration on August 1, marking both the hundredth such demonstration since the first round of negotiations between the student federations and the government broke down in April, and also responding to the general election that the premier had called that morning, boded well. The crowd was confrontational for the first time in well over a month. There were clashes with police. Jean Charest's offices on avenue McGill College were attacked. It looked like the movement had just been kickstarted.

On August 8, an afternoon manif-action called by CLASSE didn't go nearly as well. There were too few people, and riot cops very effectively prevented the crowd from blockading Hydro-Québec's headquarters. Some employees were temporarily locked out of the building after returning from their lunch break, but nothing critical.

By the weekend, some schools had already voted to return to classes without incident, Cégep de Saint-Jérôme and Cégep André-Laurendeau among them; only Cégep de Saint-Laurent had voted to continue the strike, and it had only done so on the condition that the number of striking students would total 20,000 or more.

MONDAY, AUGUST 13.

Three cégeps voted to end the strike on Monday: Cégep Marie-Victorin, Collège de Maisonneuve, and Collège Édouard-Montpetit in Longueuil. On the other hand, Cégep du Vieux Montréal voted in favour of the strike – reiterating their association's commitment, in fact, to the continuation of the strike until the realization of free education in the province of Québec.



March 15 fucks up the cops

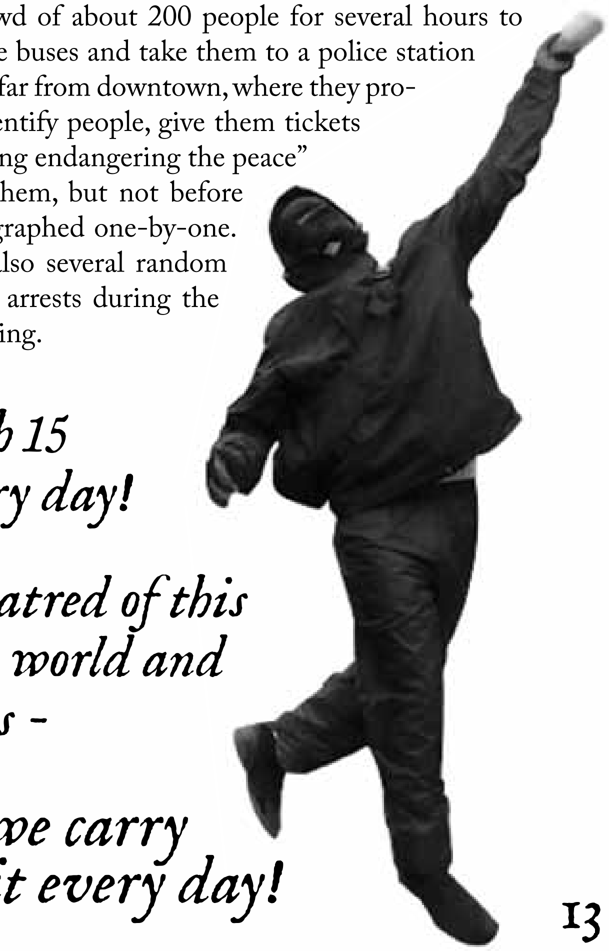
On the evening of March 15 (the International Day Against Police Brutality) in Montréal, despite riot pigs being everywhere, they clearly lost control of downtown for several hours.

Already in the afternoon, the Berri-UQÀM métro station was filled with riot cops both inside and out, the sky with helicopters, the streets with patrols of pigs and later, riot squads and horsemen. Even with this display of force they weren't up to the task; proof that revolt is more than possible here, as elsewhere. We can even in part thank the cops for the riot – they fueled it and gave it strength.

They gave it strength when they charged the demo of a few thousand people on Sherbrooke after twenty minutes of chanting slogans and anti-police graffiti, causing several pacifist hippie parasites and self-proclaimed students with bourgeois Leftist mentalities to go home. Those who wanted more than a little orderly march, wondering what the fuck they were doing in yet another pathetic ritual of slogans, split into smaller mobile packs which dispersed and re-formed to fuck shit up all night long.

The cops also fueled it when they attacked people with their weapons downtown on rue Sainte-Catherine. From this moment onwards, rage was unchained in the streets. There were probably also many bored youth who are regularly targets of profiling and who saw a great opportunity to take their turn pissing on the cops, and lost no time in doing so. As this same line of cops advanced, they swallowed a volley of stones, bottles, and a Molotov. After an attempt to block the street even further, the riot pigs saved themselves by fleeing from a second pack arriving from the other direction. Moments later, while metal garbage bins were flying down the street and into a few shop windows, the crowd fell on a brand new cop car, pigs included. The car was attacked with projectiles and you could see the terror and panic in the faces of the two cops as they squeeled away from the crowd charging on the car. Later on, a trashed cop car was overturned.

By late evening, a crowd had gathered again at Berri Square, where it had all begun, to leave once again. When the crowd hit Maisonneuve and Ontario, the cops encircled them on the sidewalk to make a mass arrest. They held the crowd of about 200 people for several hours to then fill some buses and take them to a police station in Langelier, far from downtown, where they proceeded to identify people, give them tickets for a "gathering endangering the peace" and release them, but not before being photographed one-by-one. There were also several random and targeted arrests during the day and evening.



March 15
is every day!

The hatred of this
rotten world and
its cops -

we carry
it every day!









their position in regards to ongoing colonial projects.

Plan Nord is an economic development project aimed at enriching corporations by supporting non-sustainable industrial exploitation of natural resources in the north of Québec. Simultaneously, it paves the road for the continuity and increased intensity of Québec's project of assimilating indigenous peoples into government institutions.

Those striking, so enamoured with ideals of social justice, cannot simply propose to uproot the Cree, decimate the boreal forest, slice the belly of Nunavik to extract uranium and diamonds, colonize the people of Abitibi and the Côte-Nord, to re-landscape the Gulf of Saint Lawrence by harnessing the last wild rivers of the northern shore, to bring about the end of woodland caribou and harass the Innu – along with everything else – to fund education. To collect royalties from this exploitation, one must exploit. This dynamic speaks to a lack of solidarity between the student movement and indigenous struggles, to a mentality of segregation. It would involve taking a position favourable to the capitalist discourse of ecological destruction and the colonialist discourse opposed to the social liberation of northern indigenous communities (especially those affected by Plan Nord). After a very long time, CLASSE has finally taken a position against the Plan Nord.

RETURNING TO THE ABNORMAL

The state has a monopoly on the definition of democracy. This vision of state democracy has spread into the intellectual circles of the left, and student leader recuperators, resulting in social tension. For months the government delegitimized the forms of student democracy, while the socially acceptable Left tried to convince the strikers that victory is to be found at the ballot box.

How can a change in parliament bring about a victory in the struggle against student fee increases? In the frenzied haste for a *return to order,* many sermons were given on the responsibility of voting and the uselessness of continuing the strike during and after the electoral campaign. These are above all efforts to drown the student aspirations in a *return to normalcy.*

This paternalistic "counselling" denies students the power that they have learned to exert during the strike. The power to disrupt, disturb, and fight. This dialogue tries to abolish the sovereignty that students had begun to assert without asking permission.

The strike has begun to incorporate a more comprehensive analysis of social conflict – inequality, sexism, racism, poverty – and this analysis can only continue to deepen. The government is trying to kill the movement with violent



repression such as Law 78 and bylaw P-6. They are afraid. Let's prove to be a worthy adversary. No truce for the state.

This is not the place to propose a precise alternative, but simply to destroy the idea that the state possesses a monopoly on democracy and sovereignty. **The strike must continue!**

DON'T CAVE!
LET'S MAINTAIN PRESSURE!

The election, the legal means of political action, popularizes the idea that voting is the only acceptable means of achieving change, however slight it may be. This assumption criminalizes all other methods of political action. Voting acts to contain popular discontent, giving "citizens" a vague sense of participation in political life.

The circus of elections allows politicians to restore their authority and legitimize the use of force to make this authority obeyed. Electing politicians who vote on laws that encage us is no dream. Changing the colour of the club will not soften the blows from the riot pigs, quiet the noise of police sirens and helicopters, disperse gas, nor prevent arrest.

The PQ is like the PLQ –
pro-capitalist politics, and devoid of struggle!

For further information:
contreleselections.wordpress.com



ties, for the simple reason that we don't believe anymore, comes from a shared desire to re-appropriate spaces and ways of life. We want more freedom, more get-togethers, more street fights against the cops, and even if these are only in order to enact, evaluate, and improve our revolutionary strength and potential. Solidarity stemming from action can only be built through experience.

Although their fascist laws now illegalize the strike and the unions have sold out, nothing should stop accomplices from re-finding each other in order to organize, by transforming daily life and participating in the struggle. Accomplices can be found everywhere: workers, students, the unemployed, mothers, children, and everyone else who is at the tipping point. Emerging from the popularization of the strike and the expansion of demonstrations against law and order, popular assemblies are now being autonomously organized in neighbourhoods. This organizing could spill into the workplace and schools, continuing to push against the legal, institutional, authoritarian, and representative limits imposed on us at every turn. As soon as the strike becomes illegal, wildcat strikes are organized, autonomous and outside the law!

No election will ever give us freedom. It's up to those who desire freedom to steal it back. Voting fools people into believing that they have decision-making power. There are those among us who think that ballot boxes only serve to further alienate us from each other and consequently, should be burned. We should take the streets, occupy spaces, block schools, and continue the strike by all means, reclaiming our lives, our bodies, and our dignity.

ONE FOOT IN THE BALLOT BOX

The problem is not so much the elections themselves but rather the meaning they claim to hold. Do they not seek to find an exit from the "crisis" by pacifying the struggle? But which crisis do they speak of? The financial crisis and enormous subsidies given to banks? The ecological crisis and huge grants given to companies to wash their image? Wars perpetrated in the name of democracy? The present "crisis" they speak of is the creation of a popular movement that loudly refuses the dictates of capitalism throughout the world. No election can solve it... Thankfully!

By adopting Bill 78, the special Law 12, the state's claws rip through its sheep costume and we are reminded of its true nature. It strives to arrange the conditions necessary for the interests of the powerful to never become threatened, conditions which rely on self-sustained fear. Governments rule and prevail to defend the interests of their multinational buddies and financial capital.

For social questions, there are no electoral solutions.

THE FOURTH POWER

The media. It is not that they lie, it is that they tell the truth in an isolated box, out of context, shrouded in doubt, and staged to sensationalize.They reproduce a world that thrives on elections, exploitation, sexism, and racism. While covering a five-month strike, they took care to only cover the few events that could be skewed to reproduce fear and misery, while ignoring the diversity of experiences and involvements. Luckily, not everyone took their word for granted. In the street, our numbers swelled.

The media stage a false competition in the marketplace of political ideas, all the while transmitting the language of pacification, as if the real issue of autonomy could be reduced to voting for the least terrible team. Media and politicians – hand-in-hand, having their cake and eating it too.

PLAN NORD AND THE CONTINUATION OF COLONIALISM

At the beginning of the strike in February, the newspaper *Le Devoir* published a statement of CLASSE through the spokesperson Gabriel Nadeau-Dubois: "The coalition affirms that there is a 'panoply of alternatives' that could be proposed to the government to finance education, like Plan Nord, for example. The plan for the north, as more and more stakeholders say, is an 'open bar' for foreign mining companies. Why not search for money in royalties?" As if it's obvious that mining royalties are an option for financing education.These declarations were met with harsh critique, forcing students in the movement to reflect on









Kidnapping, pre-emptive arrests, and Hollywood-style fascism

This is related to events which occured on March 15, a few hours before the anti-police demo which has become famous in the media these last few days.

On March 15, around noon, a comrade was kidnapped by plainclothes policemen during a morning jog near her place in the Hochelaga neighborhood. As she was exiting an alley, her run was interrupted by the arrival of a gray family minivan. A tall and muscular man came out of the minivan. At the same time, another car cut in diagonally, and a third from behind in the alley. Our comrade was cornered. The tall man addressed her by saying : "Hi _, I am an officer of the SPVM. You're under arrest, we have a warrant against you. You must follow us."

Our comrade then answered : "Who are you? What is your warrant? Why are you arresting me? Where are you taking me?" as the undercover cop cuffed her in the middle of the street. Our comrade screamed in the hope of being heard by passersbys. Two minutes later, she was in the minivan, on its way to the East Operations Centre escorted by two undercover cops who refused to explain the grounds of her arrest warrant. In fact, they ignored her completely.

Upon arriving at the East Operations Centre, cops seemed confused regarding the grounds of the arrest warrant. Our friend called her lawyer, who tried to set the records straight. Her and the lawyer were both astounded, since her judicial file was up to date.

Finally, the cops revealed the grounds of the warrant. It was related to her absence at court during an appearence which should have taken place a month and a half ago, on January 31, 2012, over a bullshit breach of conditions charge from September 12, 2011. Our friend and her lawyer were both ignorant of the existence of this alleged court appointment, hence why she didn't show up. Following her absence at this alleged court date, an arrest warrant was filed against her on February 3, 2012. (We are sorry for the ambiguity of details… Our friend desires to not expose her criminal record too openly).

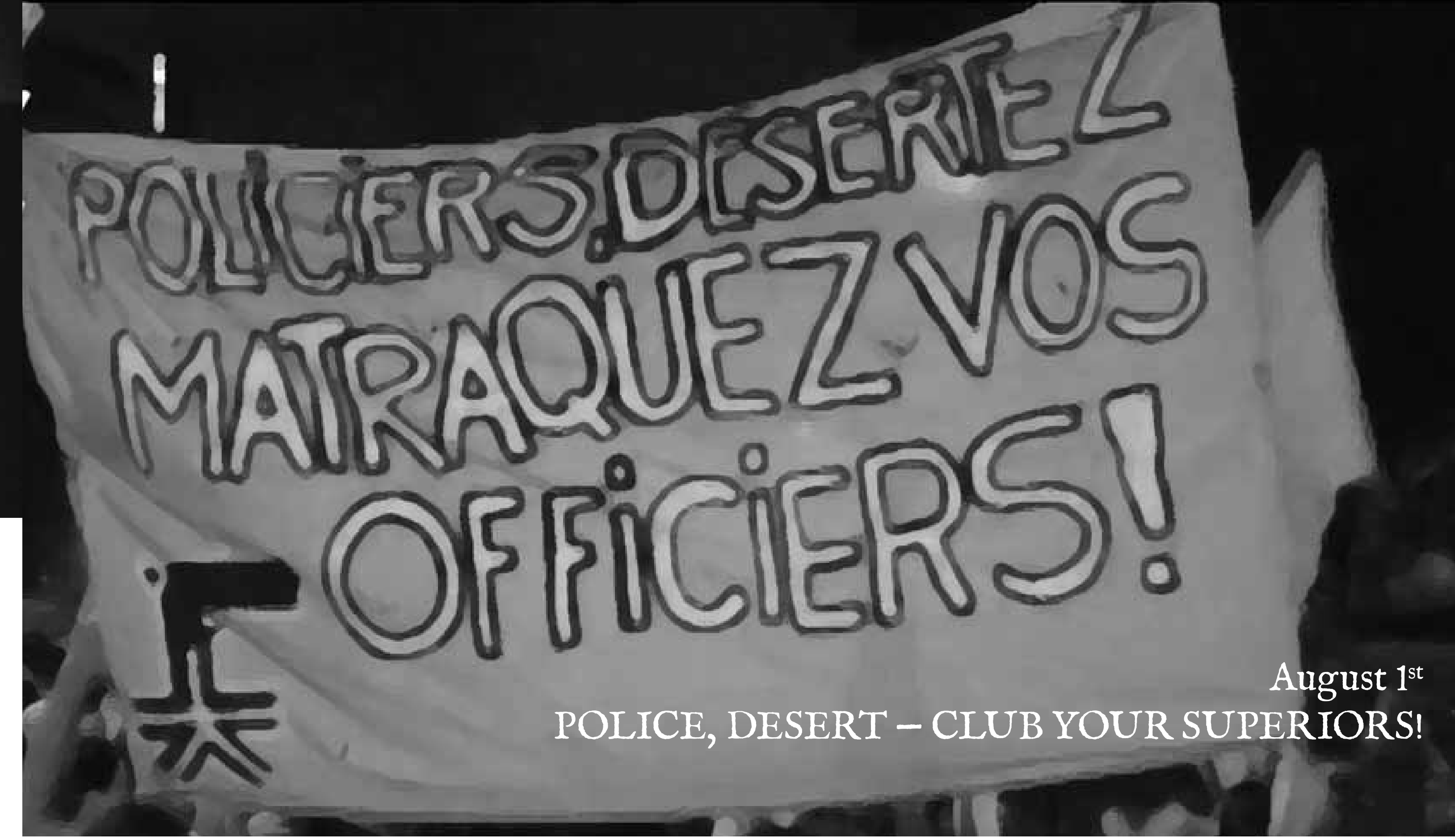
A month and a half has passed and it was March 15, the International Day Against Police Brutality, that this warrant was used.

By meeting the investigator in charge of planning the repressive operations to control the demo on March 15, our comrade was able to confirm that her arrest was tied to this demo.

The man in question was named Inspector D'Amour (or "L'Amour"). Bragging to have twenty-eight years of experience in the police, this bastard claimed to be in charge of the case for the March 15 demo and confirmed to our friend that targeted arrests would be part of the repression strategy this year. So, these fuckers waited until March 15 to use their warrant against our friend (a legally obtained warrant, but which was completely unnecessary in the context and which was explicitly used to intimidate her). The next morning, on March 16, our friend was brought to the municipal court where a judge released her under the promise that she would be present at every upcoming court appearence.

According to our understanding, the undercover cop cars were parked in front of our friend's residence, waiting for her to leave since an unknown time to then stalk her. We also know that there are other places/people who are being followed, surveilled, and having their pictures taken. Without wanting to feed paranoia, we are sharing this experience so that everyone stays vigilant. These scumbags have nothing better to do than stalk us in our daily lives. Fuck them.

This scene was worthy of a Hollywood movie. As far as we know, there have been other targeted arrests, but none of this kind. It's thus very important to spread this info because the situation is very worrying. These bastard cops must know that their intimidation strategy doesn't impress us and that, together, our tough hearts are stronger than anything.



August 1st
POLICE, DESERT – CLUB YOUR SUPERIORS!

LE PAVÉ
revolutionary journal against electoral recuperation

A "wall journal" that was widely postered during the lead up to the election.

They are "Mr. and Ms. Everybody", "taxpayers", and "people of this country". In spite of their invisibility, they know that power corrupts, that bosses pocket profits, that the planet is dying, that they work too much. They know that the elections will bring back the appearance of legitimacy that is necessary for power to continue to exploit them.



My cobblestone doesn't fit in your ballot box!

WE DON'T GIVE A FUCK ABOUT THEIR LAWS, SPECIAL OR NOT!

Not surprisingly, a new electoral date squirms towards us. Voilà, a broad strategy of the state to recuperate the strike before it becomes even more ferocious, perhaps even revolutionary! They have duped many into believing that it is the electorate who will choose the way out of the crisis. This sets the stage for the politicians to yet again shine light onto their hollow discourse, announcing themselves as the administrative heroes of the crisis, while simultaneously gaining political capital. This performance pretends to represent people's aspirations, yet it is only what they have been dictated, not what they have dreamt.

Let's be honest: no politician will ever be able to offer even a sliver of the freedom and solidarity lived and felt during the strike's movement. We have begun to recognize each other, comrades sharing a complicity that allows us to meet and ask ourselves how to become masters of our own lives. More and more of us refuse to submit, choosing a destiny out of line with the luxury, domination, and control of our enemies. As usual, politicians craft messages to sow doubt in the ability of dreamers to create their existence differently or, for example, to create new forms of education that are not controlled by the state.

Returning to class makes no sense. Refusing to produce or sabotaging the circulation of capital and commodi-

in the streets is where it's at!

brief report from the 100th nightly demo, August 1

THE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCED WHAT EVERYONE ALREADY KNEW, BUT ON THIS FIRST DAY OF THE ELECTORAL CIRCUS, IT WAS THE STREET THAT SPOKE; POLITICKING WILL NOT DEMOBILIZE US, ON THE CONTRARY...

It is clear that whenever the authorities have tried to demobilize people, be it with clubs, sound grenades, and plastic bullets, regulations and "special laws", or by drowning them in a media spectacle like new elections, the street always rises again.

In a festive atmosphere, thousands of people took to the streets Wednesday night for the 100th consecutive nightly demo, gathering the largest crowd since the Grand Prix. Arriving in smaller groups from several neighbourhoods (many organized through the autonomous popular assemblies), the crowd left Berri Square at 9 pm for another demo that was already declared illegal, picking up momentum as it went.

As usual, the cops were not hesitant to attack the crowd with batons and sound grenades. Many people wore scarves despite the heat and several people adopting black bloc tactics were visible. By 10:30 pm, the cops were already bawling over a megaphone that the demo must cease.

During the evening, urban decorum ended up in the street, SSPVM squad cars were vandalized, there were confrontations with the cops including a riot squad being surrounded by a crowd shouting ***fuck the police!***, and the building of the office of premier Charest had its windows smashed, amid explosions of fireworks and chants against the state and its police.

According to the pigs, there were seventeen arrests during the evening, eleven for municipal regulations and six others with criminal charges.

We also learned through the media that at the beginning of the evening, a car sped into a demonstrator and then took off. The injured man was taken to a hospital.

In solidarity with all the arrestees, with all those in confrontation with Power and their dogs; the struggle continues!

Seven cop cars vandalized

According to reports from the mind-numbing mass media, on July 11, a 17-year-old comrade was arrested after allegedly vandalizing seven police vehicles at Poste 35 in Rosemont, Montréal. Their windshields were broken and ***fuck the police*** was spraypainted in red.

G20: in Saint-Jérôme, Québec, a comrade is sentenced to seven months in prison

We learn through their media that a comrade was sentenced in Saint-Jérôme by high pig Valmont Beaulieu to seven months of jail for charges from the G20 summit in Toronto in 2010.

Charles Bicari was sentenced after pleading guilty to charges of mischief, theft, wearing a mask with intent, public nuisance, and endangering public safety for smashing the windows of two police cars, two stores, and an ATM with a hammer.

Some declarations from the judge:

"The courts must exercise wisdom and foresight. They do not have to wait until people die or are injured or that property or buildings are destroyed to denounce the unacceptable violence of non-peaceful protesters."

"Crimes of this nature cannot be treated as if they were commonplace incivilities, simple public disturbances, spontaneous lack of control due to the actions of others, or an exaggerated response to expose a social injustice… No court needs expert testimony to understand that *casseurs* call for the police to intervene in large numbers, the cost of which is once again paid by workers. Due to delinquents, the image of our democracy and country is distorted…"

The CARRÉ NOIR Manifesto

On co-optation and infiltration

We are students. We are workers. We are the unemployed. We are angry. We are not co-opting a strike. We have been part of the movement from the beginning. We are one of the forms this movement has taken, a form as valid as any of the others. We are not extremists, we have a radical critique of this society of which we are a part. We do not infiltrate demonstrations, we help to organize them, we give them life. We are not sabotaging the strike, we are an integral part of it, we are helping to organize it, we keep its heart beating.

We are organized to fight against this violent and oppressive system. We believe that the violence of the system that attacks social classes and entire populations justifies violence that targets objects and the political agents which the cops are. We conceal ourselves in black in an effort to escape the repression of a system that has proven its intolerance of dissent (Toronto 2010, Montebello 2007, Québec 2001, every March 15, March 7, 2012, etc.). Our black flags are a rejection of that fleur-de-lys adorned flag whose symbols—the king and the church—horrify us. The black bloc is not a group. It's a tactic, a tactic that contrasts docile obediance to norms and laws with civil disobedience and direct action.

On public opinion and the myth of unity

Radicals reject the "imagists" in this strike who demand pacifism. The public opinion that is so influential to the behaviour of these imagists is imaginary. Our battlefield is in the streets, in general assemblies, in occupied offices, in liberated spaces, and not in the media. We denounce the illusion that things can be changed without upheaval.

We contrast the principle of solidarity to the myth of unity that dominates the imaginations of our contemporaries – the interests of Québécois are divergent and non-homogenous. Is the unity of any movement really desirable? Isn't part of its strength precisely that it is so diverse, that some are willing to take more risks than others as well as take the precautions necessary to do so?

On violence and non-violence

We believe there is a huge difference between the nature of violence that targets objects and that which targets human beings. At the risk of repeating ourselves, we attack objects. This is a political, symbolic action. In doing so, we expose ourselves to a much greater violence: getting beaten with batons, gassed, criminalized, and profiled by GAMMA—and now, facing internal repression. By principle, we reject the use of violence against people. However, we don't consider this principle to apply to a person wearing armour, who is ready to violently attack others simply to follow an order.

When we look a little deeper into the pages of history, the importance vandalism has always had as a legitimate weapon used by social movements, suffragettes, unions, racialized minorities, indigenous peoples, etc. becomes evident. No social gain has ever been made without upheaval. Although the real economy plays an ever-smaller role in the total "money made", private property remains the bedrock upon which the house of cards of capitalism and neoliberalism is built, systems which are currently attacking both the accessibility of our education and our everyday lives. It's this very foundation we attack through our actions.

March 16, 2012, Montréal.

ANARCHISTS AMONG MANY OTHERS!

* Carré noir translates to black square, referencing the red square signaling support of the student strike.

Actions and confrontations



The following is a partial chronology during April in Montréal surrounding the uprising propelled by the student strike.

APRIL 5 – Hundreds of locusts are released into HEC, the city's main business school.

APRIL 12 – A throng of about 800 young people broke into and devastated the University of Montréal (UdeM) after a court injunction was granted to the University against striking students. Tens of thousands of dollars in damage was caused to thirty-two classrooms including cut internet cables and destroyed CCTV cameras, over 20 litres of white paint was spilled over the amphitheatre, and a makeshift battering ram was used to try to break down the door of the recteur's office.

In downtown the same evening, a crowd smashed the windows of banks, vandalized a cop car, and threw projectiles at the cops.

APRIL 13 – The office of the Minister of Education, Line Beauchamp, is trashed. In addition to breaking windows and overturning furniture and files, the vandals found some wine and poured themselves a glass. The next day a person was arrested and held in custody before being released a few days later on house arrest.

APRIL 15 – Overnight, four ministers' offices had their windows broken and paint and graffiti left on them. Office of the Minister of Justice, Jean-Marc Fournier. Office of the Minister responsible for Seniors, Marguerite Blais. Office of the Finance Minister, Raymond Bachand. Office of the Minister of Labour, Lise Thériault.



APRIL 16 – Bags of bricks were left on the métro tracks at three locations, interrupting the service.

APRIL 18 – A smoke bomb in the métro halted service on the green line at around 7:30 am.

APRIL 19 – During a ***manif-action*** called "Shutdown Downtown" access was blocked to the Omni and the CIBC tower, where the offices of the Employers Council of Québec, the Montréal Economic Institute and the Junior Chamber of Commerce of Montréal are located. Red paint bombs were thrown at police cars. Furniture and bags of garbage were thrown into the street. Two people were arrested.

APRIL 20 – Various groups including striking students disrupted the Plan Nord job fair and a riot erupted downtown. Intense street battles with the cops ensued and many places had their windows smashed including the Montréal World Trade Centre, Palais des congrès (the main conference center), media monopoly Québecor, various banks, and a dozen cop cars. (see *Riots and street battles in the financial district during the Plan Nord job fair, p. 21*)

APRIL 21 – Another disruption of the Plan Nord job fair ends in a mass arrest of about a hundred people. The job fair is nonetheless closed for a second day in a row.

APRIL 22 – In the early morning, paint bombs were thrown against the front of SNC-Lavalin at 455 René-Lévesque Ouest (huge engineering firm that amongst other things receives military contracts, builds prisons around the world, and also built the $10 million fence during the G20 in Toronto).

to pass from passivity to pure and simple collaboration?

There are already many undercover cops in our demos, we don't need to strengthen their ranks!

It's valuable to simply be part of the crowd that protects comrades. Pacifists become at least slightly less cop-like when they don't collaborate with the state.

Don't fall for it, don't play the game of the state, you can be a pacifist without being a paci-flic!



Québec: Claim for railroad sabotage

A major railroad was sabotaged during the evening of Wednesday, June 13, in a farming area near Farnham, Québec, in response to the call by the CLASSE for a day of nation-wide actions against the Montréal conference of the International Economic Forum of the Americas.

The train signaling system was activated by sabotaging the electric box that controls the signals at an intersection, eventually causing the traffic circulation to come to a halt for several hours. This location was carefully chosen, not only for the simplicity of the task, but more importantly for the important nature of the commodities it transports, including lots of filthy oil coming from the tar sands in the West, before this single railway splits into destinations such as Sherbrooke, Bromont's techno-park (which hosts some of the biggest names in the high-tech industry, including the infamous IBM), and further down on to New England.

This was only a beginning. There are many more fluxes that are crucial to the functioning of this system of oppression and its holy commodities, and we are committed to continue acting, always striking targets that will hurt them more. Given our indefinite number (it ain't an *invisible committee* for nothing), it is strongly encouraged that all strikers and supporters pitch in, alone or in groups, because we do not believe that these feel-good demonstrations will be enough to break Power's resolve. And the proof is in plain view… After months of striking, and despite our many fine clashes and great achievements, especially in the face of judicial and police despotism, the government still doesn't give a fuck about our most basic demands, and the cops are clamping down on dissidents like they would with dangerous criminals. We live under a dictatorship; liberty is now considered a high crime.

To let this train function – the very train that allows them to profit from devastating exploitation – is to collaborate in silence. We say: "ENOUGH WITH THIS FUCKING SUBMISSION"! It can't go on like this. The techno-industrial society, because it intoxicates the living and destroys conditions of life, must be FORCED to a stop, or else it will soon be forcing us into mass graves. Fukushima was only the first sign of this ongoing catastrophe. So we will make sure that the capitalists are paying for their abuse. Maybe the bill wasn't very heavy for them, but we can all add our two cents!

Sabotage isn't a vanguardist tactic or some childish vandalism, nor is it a provocation on the part of "*casseurs* from outside of the movement" as the filthy cops dare to spit in our ears (but who's still stupid enough to even listen to them?). Sabotage has long been a completely rational and legitimate course of action, empowering ALL of the strikes that have changed history. Faced with an unrelenting machine that imposes its conditions by force, sabotage is one of the ways of communicating revolt in joining it with wider revolt, all the while imposing our own conditions on the crooks in power; that they comply, or that their system burns!

This small gesture of resistance to the one-way train of industrial capitalism, now completely out of control, was committed in solidarity with all those arrested before and during the Grand Prix weekend (where the police put themselves at the service of Bernie Ecclestone, a wealthy notorious fascist), especially with Mathieu Girard, brutally arrested and detained during the funeral of his sister (our condolences, comrade), and Andrea Pilote, arrested on the highway in a strangely similar manner to how they shot the legendary Jacques Mesrine. Even though we do not know them, our hearts burn with blazing solidarity for these two comrades who fell victims to police violence. We also feel this solidarity towards the Informal Anarchist Federation (FAI) folks in Europe and South America, and for the indigenous people everywhere who still are struggling for their land.

– Invisible Committee for the End of Their History

ON PACIFISM...
debunking some widely held ideas

“Pacifism works”

The pacifist struggles of Gandhi or Martin Luther King were rooted in a context where more radical actions were occurring, without which nothing would have succeeded. As for the so-called Quiet Revolution of Québec, it wasn’t quiet at all: those in power merely want us to think that progressive Québec was founded on a culture of social change without violence.

“The minister will negotiate once the social peace will have been restored; once she finds serious representatives - good students who respect the state and obey the law.”

The minister doesn’t negotiate by choice, but rather out of necessity: because the balance of power forces her to as we continue to persist in our struggle. Her appeals for calm simply betray the fact that the situation has become unbearable for the state. There is no social peace to re-establish, nor to maintain, nor is there such thing as a peaceful state once the legitimacy of its decisions is put into question. Our mobilization is proof of this: we respond to an attack on education and the state sends us its guard dogs.

“Public opinion is at the heart of war. The goal is to win “regular people” over to our cause through the intervention of neutral media so that we can weaken the government at the polls. For that, we must multiply creative actions and consider the perfect demonstration to be one where nothing happens, hoping that the media will give us positive coverage.”

Do you see the government flinch in front of the general opposition to shale gas extraction, or the Plan Nord? Do you still believe that Charest and his ministers work in the interest of the population, rather than in their own and that of their “friends”? As for the media, it would be naïve to think that they are neutral and that they, above all else, seek to accurately transmit “our message”. The only content remaining, once squeezed through the filter of dumb common sense, will be that which serves their own goals of profit and social control. Would we really put our “victory” into their hands?

“Being nice in front of the cops “works”, so make peace signs, chant “please, calm down” to a line of riot cops, tell them “bravo, thanks, have a good night” after the demo, dress in pacifist-white and sit down to not be arrested when the pigs encircle and attack us.”

The last few weeks have reminded us that when faced with a crowd, the police strike without discrimination. When they decide to, they beat, club, gas, and throw into the courts without regard for the submission of the people they find in their way. If by some chance the fact of sitting down, wearing white, or booing when Armed Forces offices are smashed allows the pacifist to save their own skin, they do it at the expense of everyone else who doesn’t follow their gesture, whether by conviction or otherwise.

“If the cops intervene, it’s the fault of the professional *casseurs* who infiltrate the demos.”

Firstly, people don’t make a living by acting as part of a black bloc: it isn’t a profession, nor even an odd pastime, but rather a tactic that accompanies political ideas. The casseurs are often, moreover, fellow students with whom you share classes, shitty jobs, etc. Be that as it may, whether or not we support their actions, the police always find their own reasons to intervene when they wish, starting from the moment when we begin to be a menace for the political project which we oppose, for the normal order of things.

We aren’t saying that the only good strategy is smashing windows. But we would argue that the pacifism that we’ve been seeing around primarily represents some comfortable and superficial moral posturing. It’s nothing other than the strategy the government would like us to adopt, so that the movement pacifies itself, divides itself, and renders itself weak and controllable, ceasing to represent a real menace and losing itself in the stagnation of an inoffensive image.

PACI-FLICS [“peace police”]
Do you really want to be...the class traitor?

One must be naïve to not recognize the ridiculously simple strategy of the state, that of “divide and conquer”, and to cede to the appeals of the state as it says, “Hey pacifist demonstrators and super-citizens, show proof of your civic-mindedness and denounce each other”.

In the last few days, we saw so-called “pacifists” attack a person who had broken a window of the Armed Forces office, taking photos of the casseurs to publish them on Facebook, or straight-out trying to hand them over to the cops.

In the name of what principle of nonviolence does one beat someone who has only broken a window, hand them over to the police at the risk of not only creating a climate of generalized distrust, but, very concretely, of putting comrades in a cage?

We must be conscious that arrests lead to criminalization, that there are disastrous consequences for the lives of the people whom you sacrifice on the altar of your good conscience.

It’s already nauseating enough to see a crowd of thousands passively watch the arrests of comrades, do we really want





Overnight, nine of the ten windows of the *Journal de Montréal* office at 4545 Frontenac were busted out and ***médias partout*** [“media everywhere”] was graffitied on the building.

April 24 - While the student “delegates” negotiating with the government made an appeal to not do “disruptive actions”, a demo took place in which police cars were vandalized and the windows of an HSBC bank shattered. Demonstrators chanted ***négocier, c’est se faire fourrer!*** [“to negotiate is to get fucked!”]. Three people were arrested for misdemeanors and “breach of conditions”.

April 25 - Smoke bombs interrupted the service on two métro lines at 9:45 am and again an hour later on one line.

During a demonstration in the afternoon, smoke bombs were set off in the Complexe Desjardins (business offices and shopping center containing a Desjardins bank).

That night, a riot raged downtown during a massive demonstration of thousands of people. Several banks, a police station, and the offices of the Armed Forces and state lottery were attacked and several street battles with the cops took place. (see *The revolution will not be quiet, p.27*)

Meanwhile, that day at the Montréal court, two young women went before a judge for “breach of conditions” related to the demos. One of them, Emma, whom the media had recently demonized, was released with a promise to appear in court but was rearrested that night while walking to a bar with a friend downtown. Bike pigs recognized her and decided to harass and arrest her for breach of conditions. She wasn’t actually breaching anything – she didn’t have a condition to not be downtown. This is simply the state doing all it can to fuck with her. She appeared before a judge the next day and the crown argued against her release. After being detained at Tanguay Prison until her bail hearing on May 1, she was released and exiled from the city.

April 27 - Before 5 am, six cop car windshields were smashed in the parking lot of poste 44 of the SPVM. Graffiti was also left on a close-by administrative building of the SPVM, as well as on another cop car – apparently the word ***hausse*** (“hike”). A person has been interrogated.

April 28 - A gathering of about 75 people marched with a banner reading ***pour un monde sans patrons, ni flics, ni prisons*** [“For a world without bosses, cops nor prisons”] to the Tanguay Prison for Women to denounce political and police repression and in solidarity with detainees. Fireworks were fired on site before the group dispersed.



For an excellent chronology of the entire strike, see While the Iron is Hot, on crimethinc.com



and the struggle continues...



JUNE 12

Other hostages of the State released under conditions

At the Montréal courthouse, Yalda, Zachary, Matthew G., and Mathieu M. were released under conditions.

Yalda is accused of ransacking the offices of Line Beauchamp and the University of Montréal in an occupation in April, as well as assaulting a photojournalist from the *Journal de Montréal* at the courthouse in May. Zachary is accused of ransacking the University of Montréal for the same events.

Yalda and Zachary were released under the following conditions: $2000 bail and a commitment of $10,000, reporting to police every two weeks, having a copy of their conditions at all times, not being within 300 meters of a government institution, cégep, or university, observing a curfew from 10 pm to 6 am, being banned from appearing at the courthouse unless they have been summoned, and banned from participating in unlawful demonstrations (all demonstrations right now) or "non-peaceful". During "peaceful" demonstrations, they cannot have a backpack or disguise. In the case of Yalda, she will also be prohibited from being within 500 meters of the photojournalist.

Mathieu G. and Mathieu M. are charged with mischief over $5000, conspiracy, and disguise with criminal intent in connection with the bags of bricks thrown onto the métro tracks on April 16.

They were released under various conditions. Among other things, $2000 bail, observing a curfew, not being within 300 meters of a métro, cégep or university, and not associating with anyone with a criminal record or who is currently "facing justice", except family members or co-workers.

The accused were applauded as they left, and outside a crowd had gathered to greet them.

Solidarity with all rebels in the streets and in the cages of the state!
The struggle can only continue!



june 9 - Grand Prix, day three can't stop the chaos!

The cops were in large numbers downtown and in Berri métro. The yellow line leading to the F1 qualification races was packed with cops; two to five a train, with dozens on the platforms. Political profiling was systematic. People wearing a red square or who seemed a bit young were detained, searched, and interrogated. The buzz of helicopters could be heard throughout the day, and officers were stationed on downtown rooftops.

Some demos were held during the day but it was the 47th night demo that brought the fight to the police. Despite the riot cops systematically blocking all entrances to Crescent, hundreds of people managed to quickly slip through between vehicles on Sainte-Catherine to finally reach Crescent. Clashes broke out, and the crowd was so dense that the hundreds of SPVM and SQ cops armed with gas, sound grenades, and plastic bullets quickly lost control of the crowds that, dispersing and regrouping throughout the evening, seemed to constantly shift between curious tourists and enraged demonstrators.

The air quickly became heavy with gas and the evil black-bloc-thug maskedwithcriminalintent provocateurs could be seen helping people affected by the gas, as was also the case in the smog of Victoriaville. As the evening progressed, the riot squads seemed increasingly disorganized, going in whichever direction. Street signs, fencing, and containers were thrown out onto the street. Several police cruisers were vandalized and windows were shattered. A hotel was attacked after cops took refuge there with someone they had arrested. The clashes lasted until about 1 am. 28 arrests according to the pigs, fourteen under criminal charges.

june 10 - last day of the Grand Prix

Intensification of the police state

In even larger numbers than the day before, cops were deployed downtown, in the métro, and on the islands of Sainte-Hélène and Notre-Dame (where the F1 race is held) on foot, horseback, bike, and by car, helicopter, and boat. Profiling was even more intense and systematic. On Sainte-Hélène and Notre-Dame islands, people were forcefully searched at the métro exit and many were expelled from parks close to the race and sent back in the métro. Throughout the métro system people wearing red squares or any black clothing were detained, searched, and interrogated. People were kept in custody for hours in charter buses or jail cells without accusations. The cops randomly targeted people for arrest who they claimed they had seen in demonstrations or who had "suspicious behaviour". Democracy again completely and carelessly exposes itself as what we have always known it to be: the same old shit that extends totalitarian control in the immediate interests of the elite under the doctrine of security.

The cops claim that 34 people were arrested and forty people were expelled from the islands during the day, but according to people's accounts the number is probably much higher, perhaps even hundreds of people were expelled from the islands and the métro or detained temporarily without receiving charges. In one of the many accounts, a woman reports how she was expelled from the métro for reading passages from *Nineteen Eighty-Four* aloud and then spent hours in a jail cell without charges for daring to once again take the metro.

Demos yet again took the streets into the evening, with hundreds gathered for the 48th consecutive night. Clashes erupted for the fourth night in a row. Paint bombs were thrown at police cruisers and some windows were smashed, notably those of the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec, while a gang of parasites, including the governor of the Bank of Canada and president of the Bank of France, were inside for a reception.

The cops reported twelve arrests, three under criminal charges.

june 11

A young man, Mathieu G., was arrested on the highway while he was traveling with his family to his sister's funeral. He was immediately brought into custody, preventing him from getting to the funeral with his family. His arrest was in connection to the June 6 arrests.

At the Montréal courthouse, two of the June 6 arrestees, Simon and Xavier, were released under strict conditions.

Beginning of the International Economic Forum of the Americas

Marches under the heavy surveillance of the SPVM and the SQ were held for the first day of the International Economic Forum of the Americas where a few of the worst scumbags on the planet meet to discuss how they can plunder us even more intensely.

Loud crowds marched through the streets of the business district chanting anti-capitalist and anti-cop slogans. A UQÀM (university) window was smashed in the evening.

Two arrests according to the cops.



Plan Mort - Riots and street battles in the financial district during the Plan Nord job fair

Today, April 20, was the start of the Plan Nord job fair at the Palais des congrès. Two demos were called to disrupt the unfolding of this government propaganda operation whereby the premier Charest, among others, would promote an industrial megaproject of the destruction of one of the few places on earth where wild untouched areas still remain.

A demo called by the CLASSE (the main student coalition in the ongoing Québec student strike) had gathered over 1000 people who then headed towards the Palais des congrès. With the repressive apparatus already deployed, around noon a group was able to enter the first floor through an inside parking lot and tried to get to the second floor where the fair was taking place. The cops pushed some people down the escalators and were confronted in turn, as Charest joked around while they finally managed to push everyone outside. Later, after being set back by the events, Charest gave his speech with an introduction now making its rounds in the media: "To all those who were knocking on our door this morning, we have jobs to offer you as far north as possible." The veil of political hypocrisy is thinning, not due to the already more than evident lifeless farce that is democracy, but because we can clearly see what the "north" represents in the minds of the spokespeople for the rapacious; a far away place from which they are detached. They don't give a shit about those who live there or what happens as long as it continues to fill their bank accounts. They might as well construct gulags while they're at it.

Meanwhile, another demo called by several groups on an anti-colonial, anti-capitalist, environmentalist, and eco-anarchist basis gathered a few hundred people and left Square Phillips, stopping at various places implicated in the pillaging of the north, such as the Hydro-Québec offices where Innu women were also gathered to recall the colonial assault by the state and its institutions against their communities. Many texts about the Plan Nord were distributed.

When news arrived that shit had already kicked off at the Palais des congrès, a part of this demo broke off to bring reinforcements. Over at the Palais des congrès, while people were gathered in front of one of the entrances, someone who was close to the doors was shot with a gas canister from point-blank range, which was quickly followed by people throwing paint bombs and busting out the windows of the entrance. A riot squad came to disperse the crowd and the street battles kicked off. For the rest of the day, mobile groups including many hooded ones attacked the Palais des congrès and financial district of Montréal in waves, building barricades with anything they could find, bombarding the cops with rocks and making them retreat many times. All the while, the cops shot rubber bullets and constantly threw their new flashbang grenades. The official toll from the police is seventeen arrests and six injured (four of those being in their ranks) but we strongly suspect the number of people injured to be much higher after witnessing the level of weaponry and brutal force used by the pigs from the beginning of the day. The fair was finally canceled in the afternoon, but already no one had been allowed to enter since noon. The disruption was a success.

Throughout the day, there was graffiti, attacks on CCTV

cameras, a dozen police and media vehicles, and many places had their windows shattered, notably the Montréal World Trade Center which was attacked on three sides, as well as banks and some luxury hotels. The crowd cheered as windows were smashed and sometimes chanted ***c'est pas des pacifistes qui vont changer l'histoire! on pitche des pavés pis on brûle des chars!*** ["It's not pacifists who will change history! We throw pavement and we burn cars!" – translated lyrics from a song by local band Mise en Demeure]. A fighting spirit was clear.

The experience of rioting uncontrollably in the streets even when faced with a brutal enemy – the state and capital's mercenaries. The moment where we take back our lives, where we free ourselves from morality, fear, and the identities imposed on us. It cannot be stopped by a negotiation table, it isn't the beginning of a movement nor will it die with a movement: ***It is to be alive, free and wild!***

Almost fourty years have passed since the slogan No Future came to symbolize a generation, as it now does for the whole planet. The world they impose on us is decaying, it wasn't made to last, and while they are accumulating what's left, during this last big liquidation sale, their last big pillage, while they are pushing us up against the wall, wanting us paralyzed by the trauma of this generalized rape stretching back over the centuries of enforced domestication: ***We still know how to bite back!***







Disruption of the Grand Prix opening cocktail party and festivities

Throughout the day, the SPVM, the SQ, and private security were heavily deployed in downtown and in the Little Burgundy neighbourhood where the luxurious Grand Prix opening reception was taking place. Gatherings of hundreds of people in the late afternoon tried to approach and disrupt the events cordoned off by police, giving rise to clashes near the reception and later near Crescent Street at the centre of the Grand Prix festivities. At one point, a group was kettled and the cops made arbitrary arrests within it. Many people formed a human chain to try to prevent the arrests and the cops finally let the crowd disperse.

Confronting gas, batons, and sound grenades, the disruptions continued until about midnight, with fireworks and boat flares being shot at the police. There were 37 arrests, according to the cops.

JUNE 8 - GRAND PRIX, DAY TWO

The siege by the forces of law and order continued to intensify each day, with more cops and more profiling. People wearing the red square (symbol of the student strike) were forbidden access to the site of the Grand Prix festivities.

Other rallies were held throughout the day including one against police repression and in solidarity with Bahrain.

At the palace of their justice [2]

At the Montréal courthouse, of the two women and four men targeted in the crackdown the day before, all were denied their release except Andréa, who was released under conditions.

Xavier, Yalda, Simon, Mathieu, Andréa, and Zachary – who we name here to faciliate solidarity and the understanding of the rest of their case – face various charges including break and enter, mischief over $5000, theft of less than $5000, disguise with intent, conspiracy, assault of a photographer in the corridors of the courthouse, intimidation of a member of the National Assembly, assaulting a cop, and causing fear of a terrorist act, the latter being the same accusation as in the smoke bombs case.

Second night of disrupting festivities

During the evening, crowds of several hundred people moved into downtown and many clashes around Crescent Street lasted late into the night. The cops fired gas and rubber bullets against a backdrop of pop music, neon, luxury cars, and the presence of thousands of tourists. One crowd even managed to enter Crescent and run, pots and pans in hand and chanting anti-capitalist and anti-sexist slogans, between Lamborghinis and sexualized young women promoting useless crap. There were also a few clashes between demonstrators and douchebag F1 fans during the evening. There were twelve arrests according to the minions of power, four under criminal charges.



2. The *Palais de justice,* Montréal's courthouse, translates to "Palace of Justice".



The spectacle begins

june 6

Since June 6, more than fifty letters containing white powder and a communiqué signed Forces armées révolutionnaires du Québec [“armed revolutionary forces of Québec”] have been received in several offices of ministers, including those of Charest, other elected members of the Liberal Party, and the CAQ, the two parties that passed Bill 78. Several media offices, businesses, and capitalist institutions were also targeted, causing evacuations throughout Québec. The communiqué claimed the letters contained anthrax, but they have so far been found to contain baking soda.

Excerpts of the communiqué
found in full at fr.canoe.ca/sections/fichier/frq-1339021546.pdf

“A spectre is haunting the West — the spectre of its youth. ...These last months, we have seen that once mobilized, the youth were ready to conscribe as soldiers and die for the cause… I'm calling on you, the fresh fighters for liberty, to form commandos, cells, and expectations. Inspire yourselves with the guerilla and revolutionary terrorism...”[1]

june 7 – opening day of the F1 Grand Prix

Demonstrations have continued every day even if Power reports that the “student movement” is running out of steam with each demonstration. The massive mobilizations which were concentrated in Montréal have given way to crowds that are smaller but more frequent and dispersed. Popular assemblies have formed in some places; those who remain in confrontation with Power are getting to know each other. With the arrival of the F1 Grand Prix and threats of disruption again escalating, the police state wanted to send a clear message: “We have our eyes on you, and we will come and get you.”

The spectacle begins: searches and arrests

On June 7 at 6 am, the opening day of the festivities surrounding the Grand Prix, the cops conducted a series of searches in connection to the actions which occurred in the Montréal métro, at the University of Montréal, and at the office of the former education minister Line Beauchamp. Eleven people were targeted with warrants issued in relation to the investigation, according to the pigs. Six people were arrested during the day. The media already prepared for the show by focusing on one of them, Yalda (the daughter of Amir Khadir, the only elected member of the leftist Québec Solidaire party), at whose house the cops were essentially looking for black clothing.

1. As anarchists, it should be clear that this tired discourse of authoritarian-Left guerilla warfare calling for vanguardism, self-sacrifice, militarism, and specialization should be avoided and strongly critiqued, along with the nationalism that often accompanies it. For a classic critique of these methods and ideas, check out *The Fullness of a Struggle Without Adjectives*, or *At Daggers Drawn with the Existent, Its Defenders, and Its False Critics*.



BEST 4/20 EVAR! –
REPORT ON THE PERTURBING OF LEUR SALON

Everyone likes to claim that, on whatever stupid day that something interesting might have happened, *a movement was born*. It's a cliché that ignores everything that happened leading up to it, all of the years of hard work and small struggles that don't capture the imagination like broken glass and tear gas, and so I'm a little embarrassed that the way I feel right now, as I'm writing this and barely back to my normal frame of mind, is that Friday, April 20, might have been the beginning of an actual *anti-capitalist* social movement in Montréal, such that I haven't seen before in all the time I've lived here.

Questions of semantics should be clarified now. What is a social movement? It's not something that needs to be defined too precisely, but a movement is a *force*, which is to say that it has an impact. It does not need any ideological unity, and it's safe to say that the key difference between a movement and other things is its absence of unity, which may or may not be replaced with communication. It's a word that I would sometimes replace with the word *struggle*, too, probably for no reason other than aesthetics. And so when I think of Montréal, I can think of the student movement (or struggle), the often promising struggle against police, the movements in solidarity with Palestinians or indigenous people or Wikileaks, the movement for social housing, and others. None of these, even when they are full of anti-capitalists (as several of them are) and when their rhetoric is anti-capitalist, meets the criteria of an anti-capitalist movement – and this is even true of the nascent movement against austerity and cutbacks. For its part, the student movement in strike mode has become something of a platform for other fights, but all of this has been a sideshow to the big issue. Up till now, every demo and every action is *about* something. On April 20, it was about everything.

Two of the three demonstrations that started just before noon were *about* Plan Nord, the government's program to turn the largely pristine land that the British stole from indigenous people and Canada later gave to Québec into an industrial gigaproject on the scale of Alberta's tar sands development. Plan Nord, along with the development of shale gas in the Saint Lawrence river valley, is the plan to save Québec's capitalist economy and avert a crisis in capitalism – at least for a few decades longer. It represents a continuation and intensification of industrial capitalism. It is the precise kind of future we need to fight. The fact that this issue is so totalizing, affecting every aspect of our society, is not the reason that things went the way that they did – but it does mean that this was one of the better fights for us to choose to step things up.

The demo endorsed by CLASSE, the more combative student federation, was the first to reach the Palais des congrès, the large conference centre between the Chinese Quarter and Old Montréal that was host to the Salon Plan Nord – a job fair organized to better sell the economic benefits of Plan Nord to the public, featuring a speech by the premier himself. There was some disruption inside and lots of disruption outside, i.e. one of the longer pitched battles that has happened between street fighters and the police in a very long time. The western side of the Palais, particularly at the intersection of avenue Viger and rue de Bleury, was the perfect location for demonstrators to seize and hold the streets while causing the police a headache. Going west along Viger from the intersection, the street is flanked on either side by an empty concrete park with a fountain on the south and a carpark on a bit of a hill to the north. Whenever the police made the attempt to clear the street, people would run backwards along avenue Viger, but also into the park and especially the carpark where the cars provided good cover from plastic bullets. There were two few riot cops and too many people and too much space for any attempt at kettling to be successful. All in all, it lasted for at least two hours.

At one point, in fact, the riot cops sallied forth to clear the streets for what was probably the third time, and very soon they found *themselves* kettled and pelted with whatever materials were available. This one moment, where the police were surrounded on all sides and clearly expressing fear, boosted morale greatly, even if we weren't numerous or armoured enough to actually hold them when they made a desperate run back to the safety of the Palais. Later on, after the battle at this intersection was over, a line of unarmoured cops ran for their lives away from a swarm of angry people who had, by this point, already been peppersprayed and gassed and shot and hit with batons. They took safety behind a line of riot cops that was running to meet them and push back against the crowd. Later on still, the demo found itself finally much further away from the conference centre and much closer to the police headquarters for Montréal. Not much time was wasted before groups of people ran from the demo into the parking lot and broke the windows of the police cruisers. All of this in broad daylight.



It is actually impossible to speak of everything that happened at this juncture, but *Le Journal de Montréal* is reporting that at least one Molotov cocktail was thrown at police forces, that there were multiple instance of commercial windows broken around the city, that there was graffiti, and that at least eight cops were injured in the course of the day's events. At least some of the vandalism occurred a few blocks away from the Palais de congrès before the battle got really intense there, at the demonstration endorsed by No One is Illegal against federal immigration minister Jason Kenney's appearance in town and the further intensification of border controls proposed by the Conservatives in Ottawa.

There are at least two very important strategic lessons to be learned from this.

#1. Hiding amongst the cars in a parking lot can be a very good idea.

#2. It is frequently not a good idea to go to these sorts of things on the second day. Although there was no property destruction, the police were much more heavy-handed in their response to demonstrators on the second day of the job fair. The shitty weather, as the well as the sheer and almost universally surprising intensity of the day before, meant that not many people came, and it's clear that the police wanted to show what they were capable of doing this time. This seems to follow a pattern: after Saturday of the G20 summit in Toronto, or going back a little further after "N30" during 1999's Battle in Seattle, the repression was stepped up. Worth keeping in mind.



Prior to this law, they'd taken eyes, broken arms, shattered jaws, and put people into life-threatening comas. But people are still in the streets, throwing asphalt at riot cops and building burning barricades…



THE STRIKE

To contextualize things, the strike – if defined as students refusing to attend school – began at the start of February when most of the cégeps (public colleges) in the province of Québec, as well as two of the largest universities, voted to strike. Through a series of consistent general assemblies, the student unions and specific faculties of these schools have maintained that they are on strike, each of the bodies defining their intentions and goals. For some of the schools, continuing the strike has been a week-to-week renegotiation while others voted right from the beginning to participate in an unlimited general strike, and still others voted to strike until all education was free.

At first, the government refused to negotiate with the student federations, insisting that the decision had already been made. It took until the latter half of April before talks could happen, thanks in large part to the unilateral call for a truce by CLASSE's executive without the consultation of the membership. This truce took the form of CLASSE stating that no actions would happen under their name while negotiations were in progress. Talks broke down when a confrontational demo, not planned by CLASSE, took the streets on April 24, the government refused to sit down with CLASSE any longer, and the other two federations walked out in solidarity. Whether the government knew it and was being manipulative, or didn't and was being stupid, it should have been clear that the federation bureaucrats no longer had any control over the people in the streets – and this was no longer simply about increasing tuition fees. When further talks two weeks later produced an actual proposal for a deal, the federation memberships rejected it. There is no reason to think there will be any more talks for some time. That leaves significantly fewer options for a leftist recuperation.

TODAY

Right now, the general sentiment in the street is that we will not stop, we will not be contained, and we do not want this to end now. We have watched the situation transform from a limited strike with reformist goals to a generalized revolt with revolutionary aspirations. The diversity of tactics being used, the cries that ring out during demos, and the kinds of targets that get attacked are pretty clear indications that this is about so much more than tuition fees – and many moments have been beautiful in a way that is hard to convey. We won't give up on this.

And we want you to feel what we're feeling. We know you feel something, but we want you to feel it like we feel it. We know that every time one of us goes to jail, every time a comrade in the streets loses their eye to the shrapnel of a concussion grenade or their ear to a rubber bullet to the head, that there are so many others who feel the heat of vengeance swell inside them. Knowing the global situation, knowing that people are approaching the breaking point not just here but everywhere, it needs to be insisted upon that what is happening in Québec is not exceptional. What has happened here can happen elsewhere and it needs to happen elsewhere. Everything we're doing has been inspired by the revolts and uprisings that have taken hold in other places. If it can't inspire social disruptions of its own, then it will die out quick.

So this is a call out for solidarity as much as it's our heartfelt hope that one day you'll feel this around you as well. This needs to spread past Montréal, past Québec. Bring it to your cities and communities in whatever way you can, using whatever methods and means are at your disposal.

Our hearts and heads are tired, but we're still smiling.
We want to see the strike spread.
We want to see this social upheaval spread.
When shit is fucked, fuck shit up.



Solidarity Means Attack

Call for solidarity with the Montréal social unrest

"You can cut down all of the flowers but you cannot stop the spring".
- poster circulating around the strike

THE LAWS

On Friday, May 18, 2012, two new laws came into effect in Montréal. Their purpose is to stifle the anti-capitalist revolt that has emerged from the student strike that began in this province fifteen weeks ago, to restore order and clear the way for the implementation of austerity measures in this territory.

The first is a municipal by-law. It aims to discourage people from wearing masks at demonstrations by threatening them with fines from $1000 to $5000. It comes as the federal government is contemplating a law, to be implemented across the whole territory of the Canadian state, that would punish those who conceal their identities "while participating in a riot" with a maximum of ten years in prison.

The second is the provincial government's Special Law which demands that all public manifestations of popular dissent submit themselves to fastidious control by the state. Any demonstration, anywhere in Québec, must submit a start time and a complete route to the local police at least eight hours in advance; if it does not, it is illegal. The route can also be changed at any time by the police. There can be no demonstrations on the grounds of academic institutions or even within fifty metres of them. Any leader, spokesperson, or rank-holding member of a student association that blocks access to classes, or counsels others to do so, will be subjected to a fine ranging between $7000 and $35,000. If a student association as a whole is found guilty of the above, they will be subjected of a fine between $25,000 and $125,000. The amounts are doubled for second offenses, and student associations can lose one semester of membership fees for every day that the law is violated. It is also illegal to encourage any other person to attend an illegal demonstration, and it is potentially illegal to livetweet where the demo is and what it's up to at any given time.

In the three days that the Special Law has been in place, its tangible effect on the movement has been that CLASSE (the enlarged coalition of the Association for a syndical student solidarity), the most radical student union, has taken down its calendar of events, which listed all of the actions that were happening in Montréal and other cities across Québec. A new anonymous website has gone up.

In and of themselves, these two new laws will probably not contribute much to putting more people behind bars in the same way as the federal government's project of prison expansion and criminal justice overhaul. Instead, the aim is to destroy the finances of organizations that have accommodated themselves to the system and perhaps recoup some of the enormous costs incurred as a result of economic sabotage, traffic and commuter chaos, and police overtime over the last few months. To be clear, the fat bank accounts of the student federations were a crucial component of this situation beginning, and since they could be helpful in the future, they're worth defending. Sustaining the revolt, however, does not require money as much as courage, will, and creativity. We will get what we need to keep fighting, even if it becomes somewhat harder to do so.

Still, what happened in legislative assemblies and city council meetings has had and will have an effect on the streets. Demos are being declared illegal from the moment they begin, which emboldens the SPVM (local cops) and SQ (provincial cops) to use more intense dispersal techniques and greater levels of force earlier on.



A few weeks ago, CLASSE spokesperson Gabriel Nadeau-Dubois commented that education could be funded with the revenues from Plan Nord. This was, understandably, rejected by most anarchists, and some of us were quick to dismiss CLASSE activists as lacking a good analysis of the situation, even those far from the leadership positions. Today's events may lead us to change our minds, but we shouldn't do so too quickly. This is, for many people, a fight against the government of Jean Charest and the plan to exploit the resources of the North to reinvigorate a neoliberal capitalist economy, but it is perhaps a fight *for* a different government that would use those same resources to save the Québécois welfare state and prolong the existence of capitalism that way. The fact that people are using tactics typically associated with us troublemaking anarchists doesn't mean that they are adopting our essential ideas; it does mean, however, that we (whether us in Montréal, or us everywhere) have been influential.



On the side of tactics, there are a lot of ideas that still need to be spread. Generally speaking, people need to understand that they need to be prepared to do certain things, whether that means wearing a mask while vandalizing a police car or making sure to only throw shit from the front so it doesn't hurt bystanders or comrades. At many points today in particular, shields would have been useful, and this is a shame because shields have been making a regular appearance at demos throughout the strike. It also needs to become better understood that, when bystanders in business suits who fancy themselves heroes attack demonstrators, it is perfectly appropriate that people should do what is necessary to make them let go of their target. The notion that we don't always have to run from police is also something that needs to spread, but it could certainly be helped if people started to carry things heavier than bamboo rods and plywood. Anarchists often count among the more experienced street fighters in a given population, for obvious reasons, but the question is how can we socialize this information and see these tactics taken up by everyone?

We also need to figure out a way to create a strategy in the midst of hectic moments like these. This battle lasted long enough, and it included enough people, that it would have made sense to call for a spokescouncil and take a little bit of time to hash out some ideas. At no point was the intersection of rues de la Gauchetière and Saint-Alexandre, for example, threatened by the police. It was, in some ways, a gathering location for demonstrators pushed back by police offensives and needing to find friends. Given how long the fight was, it may have made sense for some people to call a meeting and determine what people could do to intelligently disrupt the conference, rather than doing their best to follow the mood and proclivities of what was still a very fickle crowd. This would have been the sensible place, for example, to determine that we should lure the riot cops out from their hiding place once again and then have a large crowd burst out from the carpark and break through

the windows of the Palais. Or we could have assessed if there were supplies that we needed from elsewhere, if we thought that we could hold our ground long enough for those supplies to be obtained, and whatever else. For example, after a few hours of fighting, it was clear that many people were hungry and dehydrated, and so this kind of spokescouncil would have been the place to actually see to it that these needs could be addressed. Looking back on it, we had all the time in the world – we evidently had all of the SPVM's available riot cops tied up, and it was hours before they were able to call in the Sûreté du Québec to back them up – and a spokescouncil, which is basically another way to say a general assembly, could have been more useful than any single other one of the general assemblies that have taken place in the course of the strike thus far.

When it comes to ideas, the most important thing for us to remember is that what people do, what people desire, and what people think are often very contradictory. If an insurrection ever happens in this city, it will not include only people who think more or less like us, but also the people who comprise the vast majority of society, i.e. people who are in many different ways fucked up or misguided. Many of the people who were throwing rocks yesterday might say that what they want is an independent and social-democratic Québec, or perhaps they are hardcore Marxist-Leninists who believe in authoritarian revolution, and it's all too likely that some think that 9/11 was an inside job. None of these discourses are desirable, but it is unrealistic to think that a genuine insurrection – the flower that, if well-tended and kept safe from the pestilence of the state, our seed of an anti-capitalist movement will turn into – will ever happen in this city without the participation of people who harbour the previously discussed ideas.

Insurrections can be good or bad. As but one example, when the insurrection against Muammar Gaddafi led to pogroms against sub-Saharan African (i.e. black) people in Libya with a large participation, that was very bad. It was bad in a different way that the revolutions in North Africa could be cast as revolutions for the implementation of democracy. To make sure that the flower that blooms here is a good one, it is key that we continue to spread anarchist ideas and not let them be silenced. As much as it seems that we already produce a lot of propaganda, we need to step it up. This is more important than pretending for half a moment that we can shut down all the boring, distracting, and strategically/historically bankrupt discourses that pollute the anti-capitalist movement at this time. We should be confident that our ideas – which emphasize the importance of freedom, of standing up to oppression and fighting back, and maybe even a chance at adventure and happiness in an increasingly miserable world – are more seductive than those we are sometimes going to rub shoulders with on the streets and elsewhere.

(Of course, there are some ideas for us to try and silence. Fascists, many of whom call themselves anti-capitalist these days and have taken up some of the causes of which we are fond, are trying to become a part of this movement too. We should fuck them up at every opportunity.)

There's no point in trying to be conclusive, because this ain't over, not even hardly. It should be noted that, closer to 4:00 pm, people started marching towards parc Jeanne-Mance on the eastern slope of the mountain. A day like that deserves a few victory joints to top it off, after all.

– one more anarchist, April 21, 2012







506 people mass arrested due to imaginary "casseurs"

The disinformation media has declared in unison that before the mass arrest of 506 people on May 23, the *casseurs* had launched "flaming projectiles, stones, and bottles" at the well-deserving SPVM, but unfortunately, this is not the case. We would be delighted to say that there was such a fighting spirit in the street that night, but the reality is that the mass arrest of 506 people was carried out on a crowd that had remained peaceful for hours despite repeated provocations from the cops through arbitrary arrests, blocking streets, and flanking the demo with a riot squad. There were only a handful of hooded people among the thousands who took the streets that night in a festive atmosphere. There were many chants against the government, anti-demonstration Bill 78, and police, but the level of hostility was pretty much limited to that. Just several minutes before the riot squad charged on the demo, a crowd including children, banging on pots and pans, joined the demo (the cops themselves confirmed that there were thirty minors in the mass arrest). The SPVM also said, and the media have repeated, that a dispersal order was given before the mass arrest. Once again, this was not the case – no dispersal order was given, as is usually the case when the SPVM charge into a crowd. It was only a matter of seconds: the crowd arrived at the intersection of Sherbrooke and Saint-Denis, cops blocked the street on Saint-Denis, and the riot squad that flanked the demo charged into the crowd. Besides, the media reporting projectiles thrown at the police were definitely present, yet there are no projectiles or debris, even on the ground, in any of their pictures or videos.

In reality, this mass arrest is rather due to the SPVM's desire for vengeance, who saw their street blockades broken by rowdy crowds several times during the evening. The cops wanted to reimpose their control of the streets in a show of force intended to intimidate people experiencing the strength attained by confronting power in the street.

176 people were also mass arrested the same evening in Québec City under similar circumstances.

On April 20, during the Salon Plan Nord riots, there were seventeen arrests. The next day, for the same event, an entirely peaceful crowd gathered: there were a hundred arrests. Also worthy of notice is that after months of the government saying it would not negotiate with student "representatives" nor allow itself to be intimidated by "violence", on April 23, three days after one of the most combative riots in Montréal's history, the government began negotiations in an effort to demobilize the masses of people becoming increasingly radical.

We always hear that the *casseurs* never get caught. What is true is that a group of people willing to fight their oppressor by all available means are rarely dealt with in the same way that entirely pacifist crowds are. This is because cops, who are in fact cowards who need to be armed to feel safe, will react as any abuser does when faced with someone who is willing to defend themselves – they are reluctant to attack those who refuse the role of the victim.



Ninjas vs. Pirates

May 24,

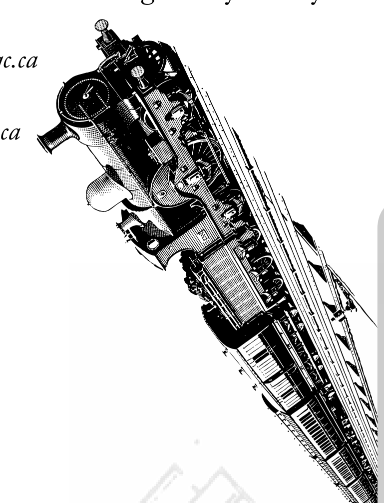
Defying the new municipal bylaw P-6 which renders wearing masks in demos illegal, several hundred people demonstrated downtown as ninjas and pirates, dressed in black and masked up. They marched behind a black banner that read ***a masked ninja will never be filed*** [in police records, that is], and ***an eye for an eye, loot the rich***.

gentina during the time of their respective dictatorships, and which had resurfaced in Chile in early August 2011 in response to police repression of the student movement there. Notably, it is through the Pinochet dictatorship that Chile has inherited measures similar to those recently implemented by Charest and mayor Tremblay for regulating demonstrations and masks. This has in no way prevented frequent riots of thousands of hooded youth.

Around 9 pm, the 29th nightly demonstration took off westward and was abruptly attacked with batons and sound grenades. The riot police blocked off the street on Sainte-Catherine and quickly charged on the crowd, which was split in two on rue Peel. The police threw several sound bombs at head height, into the heart of the crowd. The SQ mass-arrested 25 to 30 people, and arrested others on Saint-Denis and Maisonneuve, Wolfe and Robin, and René-Lévesque and Hôtel de Ville. Some crowds nevertheless continued to resist until about 1 am. A total of 113 people were detained according to the pigs, with an unknown number accused of mischief and armed assault against the cops. Four demonstrators were taken to hospital in an ambulance, including one who was hit by an asshole in a white mercedes. Two cops were also apparently injured during the evening.

Many government websites have been targeted by Anonymous since May 19:

www.deontologie-policiere.gouv.qc.ca
www.securitepublique.gouv.qc.ca
gdeaide.msp.gouv.qc.ca
sondages.securitepublique.gouv.qc.ca
www.citoyenaverti.gouv.qc.ca
www.coroner.gouv.qc.ca
www.cqlc.gouv.qc.ca
www.gangsderue.gouv.qc.ca
www.racj.gouv.qc.ca
www.securitecivile.gouv.qc.ca
www.afe.gouv.qc.ca
www.mels.gouv.qc.ca
...as well as three other sites linked to the Liberal Party.



State hostage of the smoke bombs case released under conditions

François has been released on parole [May 23]. He was the last person being detained in relation to the smoke bombs in the métro on May 10. In all, he must comply with no less than fifteen conditions, including: a ban from demonstrations, to not come within 300 metres of a métro or an educational institution, and non-association with the other three women accused in the same case (released with bail on May 18 under similar conditions). A curfew was also imposed and he is required to pay a deposit of $5000 and a third party will commit to $10,000. Along with the three other women, he is being charged with mischief, conspiracy, and incitement to cause fear of terrorism. He also faces charges of mischief concerning the occupation of the Cégep du Vieux Montréal, at the beginning of the strike.

Another state hostage being held in relation to the riot on April 20 was also released, but only provided that he no longer finds himself on the Island of Montréal, or in an illegal demonstration (which is synonymous with a demonstration at this point, as police have declared every demo since May 18 illegal). Another arrestee from the night of Saturday, May 19, has been denied his release. He is charged with possession and use of explosives, possession of incendiary material, assault with a weapon, and conspiracy.

Excerpts from a communiqué written by the rebels of Os Cangaceiros in 1985 in response to media lies regarding their métro and railroad sabotage, left on the premises of the newspaper printshop central to Parisian distribution, along with sand in the presses.

The Truth About Some Actions Carried Out In Support of the Prison Revolts

"...Our tools for actions are the same ones that every proletarian uses: sabotage and vandalism. We don't carry out symbolic actions, we create disorder, like workers currently in struggle are able to do when they blockade roads and rail lines, sabotage materials and TV transmitters and so on.

"... The thing that characterizes the style of the actions carried out from mid-June to mid-July 1985 is *simplicity.* A group of fifteen people was all it took to block this important train [Paris-Brussels Trans-Europe-Express], spray-paint it with the demands of the May rebels, and break its windows in order to throw some flyers inside... These demands form a prisoners' offensive against their isolation and an appeal to those on the outside to act concretely to *break it.* It's a question of bringing pressure to bear against this society, ***of shitting on this world with its prisons that would prefer not to hear about them...***

"... In each instance, every precaution was taken to see that the safety of travelers was not endangered... The hostility of the media was immediately *systematic*... Defining a blockade of a railroad track or the breaking of a signal light as an attack is not only incredible nonsense, but is also a way of invoking repression by intentionally confusing every act of concrete solidarity with the rebels with terrorism. With greater reason, speaking of "railroad terrorists" as some newspapers have done is decidedly despicable... After having asked at first whether we were terrorists or practical jokers, the specialists in lies went from insinuation to snitching. This is no surprise in a social system that maintains itself with police and deception."

The revolution will not be quiet
- on the riot of April 25

On Wednesday evening, April 25, thousands of people (up to 10,000 according to the cops) took the streets from Berri Square. After an hour into the demonstration, the cops charged on Peel and Sainte-Catherine, throwing sound grenades which broke the demonstration into several groups.

During the evening, the windows of several banks were shattered, graffiti and red paint was thrown up everywhere, and barricades were erected from anything that could be thrown into the street. The police had rocks ceaselessly hurled at them during the street battles, leaving several injured in their ranks. They are visibly tired and doubt is beginning to set in. They once again called in the SQ for reinforcements.

Several police cars and a Canadian Armed Forces building were vandalized, poste 21 had its windows thoroughly smashed while the cops inside were shitting themselves, and there were paint bombs for Loto-Québec. The disinformation media reported that people booed the actions of *casseurs*[1] but doesn't report that just as many people applauded. They may talk of a "social crisis" – we call it an uprising.

According to the cops, there were a total of 85 arrests of some 10,000 demonstrators.

As to be expected in all of the massive protests, some citizen-cops and dogmatic pseudo-pacifists booed and even attacked masked people who strike back against this oppressive system, having understood that transforming the world around us takes much more than just orderly marches, no matter how massive and peaceful. Those who have no interest in things actually changing – the privileged of this world who are reaping the benefits of a monopoly on violence – defend the logic of the abuser who says that violence is always legitimate when it is he who uses it. The so-called "pacifists", in their hypocritical dogmatism, are collaborators in the violence that is globally perpetrated every day against the poor, against women, against children, against indigenous people and people of colour, against animals and nature as a whole, by the hands of the racist, patriarchal, colonial, commercialist, totalitarian, and genocidal social order. When we mention these things to these automatons, we are systematically criticized for being apologists of violence… Do these same "pacifists" tackle the cops when they throw bombs, shoot gas, and charge with raised batons at young people demonstrating? Or when these cops shoot and kill people in the street or the métro? Do they attack soldiers returning from a bombing mission in a "far away" country because those who have the monopoly on violence want the oil there? No, never. They rationalize this violence. In the height of absurdity, these pacifists perpetuate the systematic violence of this miserable society by attacking those who, destroying symbols of power and attacking those who are paid to be violent, put themselves at risk and revolt in any possible way in solidarity with the oppressed of this world.



The police officers inside said they had been afraid to see a Molotov cocktail being thrown through the openings in the windows. – *La Presse*

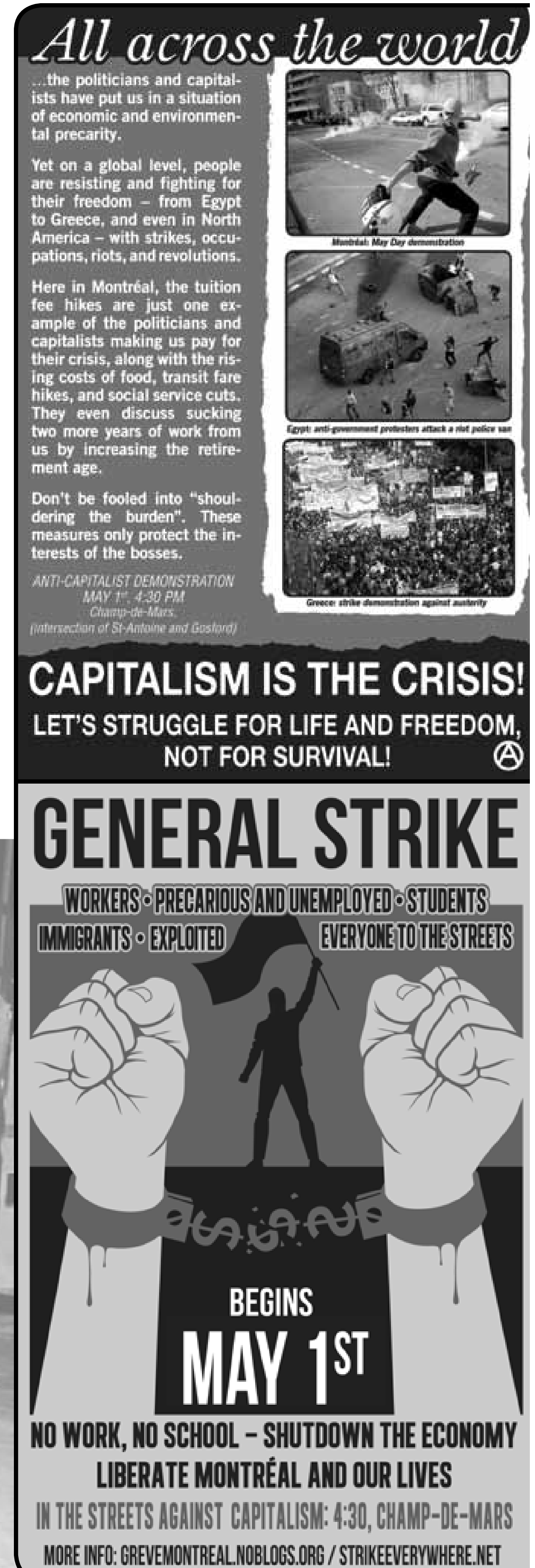
The disinformation media have clung to denouncing violence ever since the first fart from the first student demo of the strike, mobilizing their entire brain devouring apparatus to manipulate, deafen, and divide. The government thought it could let the youth rot and watch them disappear under the weight of an aging and resigned population. The cops thought they'd have but a few more anecdotes for laughs around some beers about the protesters they terrified and beat the shit out of. Yet, this movement continues to radicalize, to overcome its confining and reductive student identity, and is in the course of breaking the monopoly on violence belonging to the sociopaths from up on high and their mercenaries. Because Fredy, Michel, and Farshad were murdered by the same cops who profile us socially, racially, and politically. Who deported our family, friends, and lovers. Who force us out of our neighborhoods while cardboard condos spring up everywhere for "real people". Who beat, pepperspray, imprison, and shoot bombs at the heads of the youth showing us their social conscience. The Innu in Nitassinan and those who still live on the land are getting run over by a bunch of parasites and their sponsors; the same bastards who dominate us everyday and find it funny to watch us always sinking deeper into their mess...

...there are loads of reasons to smash it all!



"Bank accounts FREE for STUDENTS"

[1] The media, politicians, and dogmatic pacifists use the word casseur which literally translates to "breaker", essentially meaning rioter, protester destroying property and/or confronting the cops, looter, thug, etc. As the rebels said in France, ***nous sommes tous des casseurs!*** ["We're all hooligans!"]



May 22

The monolithic image of unshakable social peace in this shit country is shattered like the windows of an SSPVM cop car. There is joy to be found in defying and confronting the state, which is now panicking, daily repeating on all its platforms that "in a democracy the voting booths decide, not the street." They stand before a fire that is spreading, which they are no longer able to control and with which they are beginning to burn themselves.

On May 22, the hundredth day since the beginning of the student strike which has since transformed into a popular uprising, faced with threats from a police state with its special laws and sociopathic cops, hundreds of thousands took to the streets.



However, minutes before the start of the demo, the president of FÉCQ (one of the more moderate student federations), Léo Bureau-Blouin, called on people to respect the route they had given to the cops to protest "in safety". Taking care to dissociate himself from all those who disobey, he stated that he would not be responsible for anything that took place. You got that right Léo, you've nothing to do with it, things have gone well beyond you for a long time. The only reason you're here is because you're an opportunistic careerist collaborator.

The demo was divided into three groups. A more moderate group which gave its trajectory to the cops included student unions of the FÉCQ and FÉUQ, citizen groups, labour unions, and brought their own cops as always, etc. Another group was the CLASSE (the more radical student coalition) which had not disclosed their trajectory in defiance of Bill 78. A third group formed an anti-capitalist bloc where many were masked, defying new municipal bylaw P-6 which makes it illegal to wear a mask during a demo. Downtown Montréal was paralyzed throughout the afternoon, affecting twenty bus routes among other things.

In the afternoon, windows of banks were smashed and police vehicles were vandalized. The more combative ones were able to take action and then blend into the masses of people on the streets. It is clear that in this case there was little active complicity in the crowd, and that such maneuvers are dangerous with the *paci-flics* seen in this city and the presence of backstabbing trade unionists. It is nonetheless worth the risk, in the simmering of revolutionary ideas seen emerging among people, to share an example of what could be a diversity of tactics for those who understand that pacifism is as much a tactic as it is a trap. For those who are sick of being beaten, peppersprayed, gassed, shot, handcuffed, and stuffed in a bus for hours, no matter how peaceful they were, but who cannot physically combat the system of oppression which encircles us and maintains this disgusting world.

Paternalistic officer of the SSPVM's PR, Ian Lafrenière, declared to the media: "When you say 'we will march, but will challenge the authorities', from the get-go, you invite people who are not nice to come with you. The proof is that for the two massive marches of March 22 and April 22, the routes were known and there were zero problems." In other words, what the piglet is trying to say, is that if you collaborate there are zero consequences for the corrupt thugs who give us orders and their shit cops for being first-class fascist scum.

Earlier that day the Public Safety Sinister, Robert Dutil, said that Bill 78 was passed at the request of the Sûreté du Québec and Montréal police.

"They have the tools they need, they asked to be able to intervene earlier" [...] "The police have another tool to call demonstrations illegal, they do not have to wait until things are thrown or there are assaults against the police" [...] "There could be other resources if necessary."

Towards the end of the afternoon, the demos converged at Lafontaine Park where self-important "representatives" gave their monologues. A demonstration of several hundred people left to head for the Jacques-Cartier bridge, but the cops had already blocked it for them, so the crowd headed for the Berri Square to take part in the twenty-ninth nightly protest in as many nights.

At 8 pm, people all over the city and beyond started loudly hitting on pots and pans for hours in a series of noise demonstrations which have been going on in several parts of the city since Friday night [May 18] and which have now extended to the rest of the province. These are inspired by the *cacerolazos* which emerged in Chile and Ar-

AN ANARCHIST PERSPECTIVE ON BILL 78

This is a half-page flyer written about the "special law", Bill 78, the anti-protest law passed by Québec as part of a crackdown on the student movement. This was made to be distributed in Ontario at the "casseroles", or pots-and-pans demonstrations, inspired by and in solidarity with the struggle in Québec.

"The law, in its majestic equality, forbids rich and poor alike to sleep under bridges, to beg in the streets, and to steal bread." – Anatole France

"Violence was the law, and with the cannons in the hands of the whites, the law was white."
– Sunera Thobani

The social struggle in Québec, grown out of a student movement against tuition, has inspired many. But perhaps the central issue causing people to take the streets with pots and pans across the country is Bill 78, known as the "special law". It criminalizes demonstrations not approved by police and imposes heavy fines for political activity on school campuses. It has been accompanied by a crackdown that has seen more mass arrests than the FLQ Crisis of 1970, at last count over 2,500.

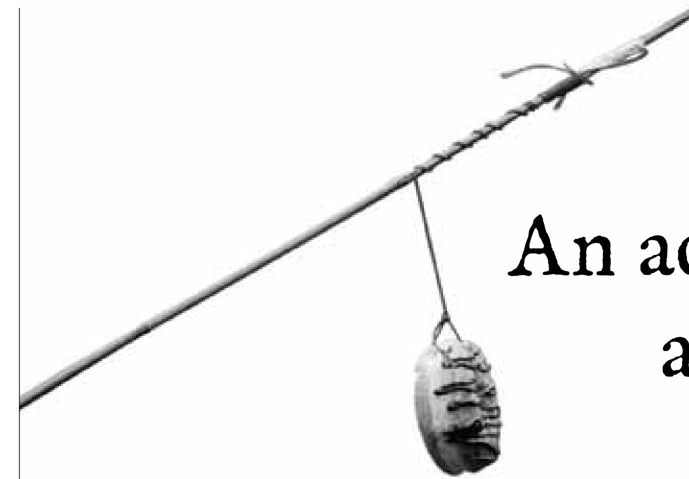
But the special law is not special. It is a predictable response to a special mobilization, a struggle that is unprecedented in its size, popular support and ferocity in recent Québec history. In Ontario, we got a taste of "special law" in 2010 at the G20 summit, where government and police collaborated to create a "no-go zone" around the security fence protecting G20 leaders. Rights were thrown out the window as downtown Toronto was transformed into a police state. Middle-class white people were especially outraged, and will have their day in court now that the threat has temporarily subsided. But for people already criminalized under this system, this only represents an intensification of an everyday experience of targeted harassment. We see this same process happening in long-term ways on a federal level, with sweeping crime bills and specific laws aimed at pre-empting dissent, such as the anti-mask law with penalties of up to 10 years in prison.

This is about the interests of government and capital, not the evil conspiracies of Charest or Harper.

If we exceptionalize Bill 78, we ignore the fact that the law is a set of tools and weapons governments use to entrench the interests of the powerful, control and regulate the general population, and wage war against the ungovernables. The Canadian state is founded on the genocidal conquest of indigenous nations and land, and concessions such as the Charter are desperate attempts to create legitimacy where there is only a ruthless violence underpinning "Canada". So we shouldn't be shocked when we see these same rights instantly evaporate in a "crisis". And in these times of social upheaval and economic austerity, we are approaching perpetual crisis.

Focusing on a particular law or appealing to rights risks going on the defensive and getting drawn into a conversation with our enemies. It paints the movement as powerless victims. We should be inspired to action not just by images of police brutality, but also by images of masked rebels chasing riot police. Now is the time to build our grassroots power, prepare for repression, support those targeted by the state, but most importantly to go on the offensive.

LA LOI SPÉCIALE - ON S'EN CÂLISSE!
NO PRISONS - NO BORDERS
FUCK LAW AND ORDER



An account of the Montréal anti-capitalist May Day

Another day of clashes with the cops and attacks on the state and capital (TD and BMO banks, several shops, the offices of Loto-Québec, and cop cars) took place in the ongoing uprising in Montréal.

Thousands of anti-capitalists, many anarchists, but also feminists, communists, striking students, and various groups for social justice joined in the streets of Montréal. A considerable part of the crowd was masked and dressed in black.

Even before the demonstration began, a member of the Revolutionary Communist Party was arrested. The demo left Champ-de-Mars around 5:15 pm, recalling the starting point of the first May Day demonstration in Montréal's history. The crowd applauded each time fireworks were shot, but overall remained relatively silent during the first forty-five minutes. Apart from the SQ helicopter [Québec provincial police] which is now part of the landscape, a riot squad followed on the sidewalk to the right of the crowd. Tension was so palpable it could be cut with a knife. At one point, what seemed to be a flare was fired in their direction, and earlier a group of people taunted them with donuts hanging from makeshift fishing rods.

About forty-five minutes in, after the march turned north and headed for rue Sainte-Catherine, the cops declared it illegal on a loudspeaker with people yelling back ***on s'en crisse!*** ["We don't give a fuck"]. A few moments later at the crossing of rue Sainte-Catherine, a line of riot pigs charged on the crowd after a bank got smashed, grabbing two people, but even while shooting rubber bullets and teargas they soon retreated before volleys of projectiles; stones, bottles, fireworks, etc. It is clear that capital's militia wanted to prevent the black-clad wave from spilling further into downtown at all costs, specifically the part where corporate shops and banks are stacked in a big luminous display of the capitalist spectacle. In front of retreating cops, the crowd still decided to continue north while another line of cops approached from south. The demo turned eastward and the cops grasped the opportunity to run behind them firing rubber bullets, tear gas, and throwing stun grenades.[1] The crowd responded by throwing stones and smashing a few windows, like those of Loto-Québec. After several minutes of being chased, the crowd began to disperse and partially reformed shortly after at Sainte-Louis Square to march towards Berri Square where a student demonstration was called for that evening.

Cops were deployed everywhere and began jumping on anyone. One hundred arrests took place including a mass arrest of seventy people just before 7 pm. Many people managed to converge at Berri Square. Cops cars were splashed with red and pink paint and a clash with riot pigs arresting people took place before they dispersed and distanced themselves while the more pacified student crowd gathered for their eighth nightly demo.

Each day is a day of struggle, and revolt is possible everywhere!

Solidarity with the insurgents of Oakland, Seattle, Greece, Chile, Spain, Turkey, Indonesia, and with all groups and individuals in confrontation with power and domination.

The struggle continues on all fronts!

Total liberation for all inside and outside the walls!

1. We've received information that amongst several people injured, a young man is in the hospital with multiple skull fractures after being brutally assaulted by police during the demonstration.











Sunday, May 20

Several thousand people in the streets of Montréal once again, declared illegal from the get-go. Many people masked up. The cops tried to disperse the crowd on several occasions, but the crowds dispersed and reformed for five hours while barricades were built and intense street battles took place against raging cops. Shop windows were smashed (making the authoritarian pacifists whine again) and there were many attacks on police vehicles, including one which was set alight, due to a "failure" according to the cops. At one point, a crowd that had been caught in between two lines of riot pigs came together and charged at one of the lines of armed cops, breaking and disrupting the lines, making it possible for many to escape. Comrades, your courage warms the heart and points towards a new world.

Pigs made several mass arrests, totalling 300 people. Amongst dozens of injuries, several people were seen unconscious after being attacked by the pigs, and a man was taken to the hospital unconscious after being shot with a plastic bullet in the head. Some scumbag cops were injured as well.

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1. The chant *"SSPVM, police politique"* (SSPVM, political police) has been taken up in the streets of late, and we think it appropriately connects capitalist democracy to the fascism of state domination, but it's important to note that some anarchists have been critical of this chant, partly due to the implication that police must be "fascist" in order to be legitimately attacked.





Since Friday, May 18 demos have taken place in several cities of the province, like Québec City, Sherbrooke, and Trois-Rivières. In Montréal, tens of thousands of people are confronting the police state, defying the new "special law" which requires, among other things, that any gathering of 50 or more people provide its trajectory to the cops eight hours in advance and modifies it at their request, with fines that can reach tens of thousands of dollars for individuals and up to $125,000 for groups or organizations.

Friday, May 18

After giving a trajectory to the cops and leaving Berri Square at 9 pm, the demo, at some point counting more than 10,000 people of all ages, deviated and improvised its route. The crowd chanted ***la loi spéciale, on s'en câlisse!*** ["We don't give a fuck about the special law!"] between anti-government and anti-cop chants. About 40 minutes after the start of the demo, the cops charged without warning, throwing sound bombs at head height as always, and so began the clashes. The crowd responded with rocks, smoke bombs, and Molotov cocktails. Many groups splintered off and clashes continued until 3:30 am, with windows smashed and cop cars vandalized. There were a dozen arrests and a man was hospitalized in serious condition after the cops shot him point-blank in the liver with a plastic bullet.



Saturday, May 19

Another huge crowd of thousands of people took to the streets for the 26th nightly demonstration in as many nights, and no trajectory was given to the cops. The demo left Berri Square around 9 pm like every other evening. The SSPVM[1] declared the protest illegal a few minutes in and continued to repeat the same warning with the crowd chanting "la loi spéciale, on s'en câlisse!". A convoy of several SQ riot squad buses followed the demonstration through parallel streets. Several people were masked, defying the new municipal bylaw put into effect the same day, prohibiting the wearing of masks during a demonstration.

A little after 10 pm cops provoked the crowd with arbitrary arrests and started to throw gas. The clashes started and barricades were erected, notably one at the corner of Ontario and Saint-Denis – an area with lots of bars and nightlife – where it was set alight and maintained for several hours. Meanwhile, cop cruisers and riot squad buses were attacked. The SQ were deployed to reinforce the SPVM, and at one point firefighters arrived and approached the fire, but received orders to leave. Certain people probably wanted pictures of the intervention of the riot squad against a fiery background to legitimize the power-tripping cops attacking anyone on the street or on the terraces of bars on Sainte-Denis. In fact, the next day the mayor replied to some journalists who questioned the work of cops, that the rioters set fire to Montréal.

There were 69 arrests according to the cops, who were arresting just about anyone at any time. 9 of 69 people are accused of assault against police officers, assault with a weapon, and arson. Three people who were still in the cages of the state were released on bail on May 22 (note that another person is still in the cages of the state in relation to charges of mischief and assault against a police officer in the riot on April 20th during the Plan Nord job fair). The owner of a restaurant was also arrested because he wore a red square (symbol of the student movement) and let people inside while the cops were on a rampage. Another announced that he would sue the SPVM after they attacked people on the terrace of his bar.









The battle of Victoriaville

May 4, 2012

Premier Charest ran away to Victoriaville with his gang, the big Liberal "family" as they like to call themselves, but they were quickly caught up with. Thousands of people from all over the province gathered in Victoriaville during the first day of the Québec Liberal Party's annual general convention which was going to be held in Montréal, but had been moved at the last minute for fear of the uprising raging there.

After several speeches the march arrived at around 6 pm near the Convention Centre at Le Victorin hotel – where the SQ riot squad was waiting with its whole arsenal. At about 6:30 pm, the metal barriers fell and the clashes began.

The SQ bastards threw profuse amounts of sound grenades, fired tear gas canisters directly at people point-blank, and shot at people's heads with plastic bullets. The cops were pelted with stones, pieces of asphalt, fireworks, paint bombs, and – according to them – some pool balls.

SQ vehicles were vandalized with graffiti and stones, and several windows of the convention center were smashed, causing the huge tear gas smog to be felt inside.

When a cop began to brutalize someone who he was putting under arrest, he was given a beating by some hooded comrades who managed to dearrest him/her while a SQ SUV sped towards them and a cop shot at them point-blank with a tear gas canister. The SUV subsequently came under a hail of projectiles which took out most of its windows, forcing a hurried retreat before they were able to reach the cop who had finally been rendered powerless to enforce submission.

There were dozens of wounded demonstrators, many of whom left in ambulances. Notably, a youth suffered head trauma, facial fractures, and a cerebral contusion while another suffered a head injury, injuries to the face, and lost an eye.

By 9:30 pm, after several hours of battle, most people had left. The revenge of the cops came shortly after when they blocked roads 116 and 995, intercepting three buses. All passengers were brought to the Victoriaville police station and today [April 5] more arrests took place, bringing the number of detained over the weekend to 110 according to the cops.

From Québec City, the student "representatives" have appealed for calm while negotiating with those who shit on us, adding that their "discussions" were progressing – namely, their collaboration to demobilize something which has clearly far surpassed their specific demands and control.

While the state sharpens its knives: confrontation with the cops and attacks on banks



Wednesday, May 16

While the state sharpens its knives, demos are taking place in several cities against the extension of the police state with the preparation of a special provincial law and new municipal regulations[1] in a desperate attempt to regain control. In Montréal, thousands of people (upwards of 7,000 according to certain fascist media) took the streets at 11 pm for the third demo of the day.

After a little over 45 minutes, a dumbass in a suit began insulting and provoking the crowd. He soon found himself surrounded, the cops began to use pepper spray, and the crowd responded with a few stones and metal garbage bins. The cops started to throw sound grenades and fired plastic bullets. Minutes later the windows of several banks were shattered to pieces.

One person busting a window was attacked from behind, but a comrade acted quickly to free the person. Watch your back and the backs of your comrades, other than the usual undercovers, it seems that there are other scumbags like peace police working in groups and probably organized fascists as well.

Around 1 am there were mass arrests. 122 people were detained according to the cops.

1. On May 18, the "special" law and the municipal regulation were implemented. Among many other things, they render demos illegal that do not give the cops their route in advance and are forced to change it if it does not suit them, and it is illegal to wear a mask in a demonstration in Montréal and many other cities are reportedly preparing similar measures.

Campuses evacuated by bomb threats

Thursday, May 17

In Gatineau, the three campuses of Cégep de l'Outaouais were evacuated for several hours due to a bomb threat around 8 am, finally found to be a false alarm.

In Laval, classes were cancelled for the day at Collège Montmorency also because of a bomb threat.

La loi spéciale, on s’en câlisse!



Négocier c’est se faire fourrer!
[chant: “To negotiate is to get fucked!”]
Let’s not let them demobilize us!
Let us be lead only by our dreams and desires!
Let’s keep the revolt alive!





A first-hand account of the brutality of the SQ on May 4 in Victoriaville



To write one's experience is a means of expression. It is to put it outside of oneself, to be able to understand, to regain power. If I write what I experienced Friday in Victoriaville, it's to put a distance between what I've felt since, to share it for deconstructing the media discourse and misinformation, so that ultimately these events, instead of dividing and defeating us, bring us collective power.

This account is intended as a revisiting of the events surrounding a demonstrator whose head was severely injured. I was present in the case of Alexandre, the moment he found himself on the ground, until he left in an ambulance.

Little time separated the moment when the crowd control barriers were pushed over from when the officers of the Sûreté du Québec used tear gas projectiles. In more or less fifteen minutes, those in the crowd who had no masks or scarves had to quickly step back and take refuge to avoid the drafts of tear gas. With no eye protection and because of the intense effect of the gas, I was forced to move. At times, I was completely blinded and had trouble finding my breath. I had the reflex to seek the support of demonstrators to find a safe place. I then cleaned my eyes with a solution of milk of magnesia and water, then went back with a friend to where the largest crowd was located.

There were easily 300 to 400 people who were near the hotel; either in action, that is to say close to the police, or further back. There was an atmosphere of tension, anger, but also solidarity. The common thread of challenging the power of the Liberal Party wove cohesion through the crowd and support for the diversity of tactics being used. All this lasted probably another 10 to 15 minutes.

While we were on rue Steve near the Sonic gas station, we redirected people bothered by the tear gas so that they could get treated, and then we crossed the street, passing behind the shops on rue Arthabaska East. Then we came to a grassy field behind the Naud row. There were a lot of gas drafts, but it dispersed quickly so people were not affected much. At this point, there were no officers on the grounds. We decided it was a well-placed spot to observe the events and decide what to do next. From the point where I stood, it was possible to see that there were clashes with the SQ officers on Arthabaska, again I emphasize the amount of tear gas that was launched to scare the crowd.

Then I heard people shouting that there was someone injured, to make space. I saw a group of people carrying the body of a man in his twenties. He was laid on the ground and I knelt beside him. I didn't have a first aid kit with me, but I have first aid training so I proceeded: I checked his state of consciousness, I made sure he was stable and maintained his position, and then looked to see if he had any injuries. Every stage happened very quickly. He was first clearly unconscious, he was foaming out of the mouth, and seemed about to choke. I opened his mouth and moved his tongue, he coughed and started breathing more regularly. Then I noticed that on the side of his head a large quantity of blood was flowing. I turned, moved his hair and saw the state of his ear.

Noise demo at Tanguay Prison in solidarity with arrested comrades

On May 16, at around 9:30 pm, about one hundred people showed up at the Tanguay Prison for Women on Henri-Bourassa where three young women are held, accused of throwing one of the smoke bombs that paralyzed the Montréal métro last Thursday.[1] The SQ scumbags were already on the scene.

The demo was called "to make some noise and break the isolation of the prison walls, showing to our comrades they are not alone. This is also a demo against the political and police repression happening since the beginning of the strike, against the charges against our comrades, and in solidarity with all those behind bars."

The crowd approached the doors and communicated with the prisoners by using megaphones, many fireworks were set off, and a smoke bomb was thrown at the cops. The crowd dispersed around 10:30 pm.

Text from the flyer:

Since the beginning of the strike, there have been over 1000 arrests, many injuries (two people of which have lost an eye, while two other demonstrators found themselves in comas after being attacked by the police), many are facing charges and increasingly restrictive conditions like curfews and non-association, several comrades are in political exile (they are not allowed to be on the island of Montréal, and are thus also kept far from those they care about), and others are currently in prison. This is happening in a context where the state is becoming increasingly fascist. The anti-mask law the government is trying to pass is exemplary: wearing a mask during a demonstration punishable by a ten year sentence.

Since the beginning, the social peace necessary for capitalism to run has been disrupted by an imaginative social movement. At the same time as the state raises tuition and slashes social services in order to maintain profits for the elite, it is also subsidizing companies involved in resource extraction looking to make profits by gutting indigenous territories in the north and setting up new security measures and spending millions on the construction and expansion of over thirty prisons; this is capitalism in all its glory.

This system has been imposed on us by force. The police, the courts, and the prisons aren't there to protect us; they are meant to enforce a system of domination. The same ones throw tear gas and plastic bullets the instant a demonstration escapes their control and support the bosses during each strike. They are the ones who put themselves between the hungry and the supermarket shelves teeming with food, the homeless and vacant buildings, between immigrants and their families.

Their violence is not accidental; it is essential to their existence. This system uses intimidation and isolation to try to discourage any form of resistance. Freedom is held captive in the hands of a judiciary which zigzags between bail, restrictive conditions, criminal charges, and imprisonment.

Let's break the isolation of the prison walls. Shut down the prisons that are yet another method that the state uses to try to subject us to its control.

Fuck the prisons!

Long live the strike!

1. They were released the morning of the 18th with several conditions.

Let's not allow ourselves to be distracted by the media lens at the service of dominant ideology. In symbiosis with power, the snitch media are targets of choice for upcoming actions.

the continuous disinformation of the mass media, who are incapable of enduring the antisocial policies of the government. For all those who are sick of being harassed, injured, and insulted by the police – who leave demonstrators between life and death, many of whom are not even deemed worthy of caring about later – for all this mass of people who, around the world, are struggling against all the violence imposed by capitalist restructuring. For all those people, we are claiming the right to legitimate wrath, to direct action, and to revolt against a political, economic, and social system that's wearing down consciousness and destroying lives.

By seeking to criminalize all forms of demonstration, by seeking to terrify anti-authoritarians in the hopes of fueling the witch-burning fantasies of a controlled "public opinion", the state, in a totalitarian leap, is consolidating its authority with blows of so-called legitimate violence. It doesn't step back, discuss, nor be overly bothered in the face of the repercussions of its recklessness. It is rather devoting all the resources at its disposal to once and for all put an end to a social movement that has continuously proven itself. It hopes to one day be done with marginalizing, dividing, and ridiculing the critics that are arising in the face of its austerity policies – that which the neoliberal project consists of – to freely pursue its purge of social services that people want to be accessible, of quality, and kept away from the private sector... We will not let ourselves fall into this trap.

Unity through tearing apart

We are addressing the movement in struggle. Let's not allow ourselves to be distracted by the media lens at the service of dominant ideology. In symbiosis with power, the snitch media are targets of choice for upcoming actions. The state will desperately try to find those responsible and will go after the most combative among us: its repression is political and it will find all the necessary pretexts for attempting to force those who confront it into submission, be it in the street, in the general assemblies, in the action and mobilization committees, or just in their writings. They try to present as more legitimate the tendencies that are the least demanding or dangerous for the maintenance of the status quo, in order to divide the movement and isolate the more radical tendencies from the more reformist. Let's cede nothing. Only through the continuity of the movement, the expansion and intensification of it, can we aspire to a more just society.

The show must go down. The struggle continues.

forceetudiantecritique.org



The state brutalizes, the media terrorizes
We are all smoke bombers

It was then that I became afraid. Really afraid that something very bad was happening which was beyond me. People stepped back, seeing the wound. I felt he was dying, but I put myself in "intervention" mode. Knowing he was slightly conscious, I constantly talked to him to keep him awake. I introduced myself, then I spoke to one of the many people who were watching the scene and had a cell phone. I told him it was serious, that we needed an ambulance immediately, that he was in danger. The person called. Several people tried to reach medics during this event, and it was extremely complex to get help in the time necessary for the survival of this person.

The first person who had a first aid kit tried to stop the bleeding with cotton gauze, but there was not enough material. Another person from the demo medical team took over, a friend of the wounded also approached, and we stayed together until the paramedics arrived.

Alexandre had episodes of retrieving consciousness, he was agitated, showing pain and panic. Around us, there were lots of noises, screams, actions. I tried to reassure him verbally, I told him he had courage, to stay with us, to focus on his breathing, that he needed help and was wounded at his ear, that I understoud his fear, that we were doing our best to keep him safe. I told him about his friend who was with him, his friend spoke to him and helped to keep him lying down.

We were on the ground for what must have been ten minutes. I heard shots from very close, and when I looked up I saw that the SQ were on the grounds, and that they were approaching us while shooting tear gas. Demonstrators had made a security perimeter around us, shouting that there was a wounded person. People spoke directly to the police officers to make them understand that there was a person on the ground in serious condition. Despite my distrust of the police, my critiques of their actions and behaviours, their foundations, their ideology, I still naïvely believed that in this urgent situation they would have sufficient judgment to give us a minimum of safety. They shot tear gas canisters a few meters away from us. We had to move Alexandre twice due to the incompetence of the SQ, and more importantly, due to the militaristic behavior that reflects the intensification of the violence used by the armed branch of the state. Throughout this chaotic situation, the officers continued to follow orders. They deliberately left us with the responsibility for their actions and the management of the situation for which we could not provide the necessary care.

At one point, when we first moved Alexandre, he tried to talk to us. He was unable to pronounce words, and he repeated sounds, seeking a reference point. His friend spoke to him, others came closer. I told them to warn those who were with him so that he had support when he got to the hospital. The second time we moved him, we went on to the Naud row where there were more people from the demo medical team who took care of him. The ambulance finally arrived, escorted by agents of the SQ. It took a while for it to reach us, then Alexandre was placed on a stretcher, and his friend went with him.

I will not go into descriptive detail of the injury he had, but these were lacerations which couldn't have been the result of plastic bullets, pool balls, or even rocks. Alexandre had no mask, no hood, he was in a t-shirt. My guess is that he was overcome by tear gas, finding himself blinded and disoriented. Shots were made from both sides, at which point he would have been hit with a grenade. We must remember that all of this took place at the beginning of the so-called "riot" when the demonstrators had few projectiles. On the other hand, the grenades thrown by the police are metal objects that deploy on contact, triggering the explosion of the container which can therefore cause severe cuts. This is what I believe happened to Alexandre.

What I experienced is a confrontation with a level of violence which is close to the aesthetics of war. For two days now, I have analyzed the images which traverse my thoughts, I think of the police intervention, of the smell of tear gas. I was disturbed to then see the health status of Alexandre in the media, to confirm that what I felt I saw was actually proportional to the severity of the injury. It was not simply a dramatic framework that I had constructed. I am also angered to see that, once again, the media serve the interests of those who govern and who hold the monopoly on violence. They claimed that we had been infiltrated by a minority of *casseurs*, that there was no police brutality, that the repressive response was normal given we had crossed a "symbolic boundary" that had been drawn around the hotel. We were shown a pile of rocks, sticks, and tie-wraps, obviously picked up at random, to demonstrate the rowdiness of the demonstrators. They fed us an entirely assembled narrative to justify a military intervention to protect officials and government representatives.

They try to make us swallow that Alexandre was injured by other demonstrators, that ultimately it is "our fault". If there is an investigation of the SQ for this event, it will be to yet again conclude that they are not responsible. Already, the press conferences have shown us: asserting a "symbolic boundary" in no way permits the extent of physical attacks on people in no way equipped to fight on equal terms.

In short, no matter where this account finds itself, I want it to be able to resonate with other people who saw and who heard, that it contributes to a critical discourse. So that our collective memory allows us to say that we will not forget, that there is no forgiveness for those who claim to defend the justice of the social elite.

Smoke bombs in the métro - who are the terrorists?



On the morning of May 10, smoke bombs in three métro stations crippled the entire network for over two and a half hours during rush hour.

Montréal police called for denouncement and the media, notably *La Presse*, published pictures of four people taken by citizen-snitches, as well as their identities and information.

The next morning, the cops raided an apartment in the Hochelaga neighborhood. Later, four people delivered themselves to the police. The three women and one man were arrested and remain detained. They appeared Saturday in court via video conference.

They are accused of "inciting fear of terrorist activity", of conspiracy, and mischief over $5000. They appeared once again Monday, May 14, before an ovation from the people in the courtroom. They will be held hostage by the state at least until May 23.

Note that a solidarity gathering was held outside during the court appearance and that the media who were on site were confronted and denounced for the pieces of shit they are.

Terrorism charges when no life has been endangered, coming from those whose armed wing aim at people's heads with plastic bullets and sound grenades, leaving people hospitalized with brain contusions, skull fractures, missing eyes, etc. Add to that a municipal bylaw that seeks to outlaw any protest that does not provide its route in advance, thus conveniently outlawing any spontaneous or improvised demonstration, which is not directed, organized, and supervised by a group that will collaborate with the cops, coupled with an anti-mask bylaw in a city that has fucking cameras everywhere, which has a political police squad dedicated to profiling "anarchists" and "marginals", and where during demos we're being filmed and having our pictures taken by cops, helicopters, "journalists", and the intelligence agencies, not to mention Facebook… And finally, media that would make Joseph Goebbels proud…

Those who do not have their head up their ass can see that what lies behind the thinning veil of democracy is totalitarianism, and as in all totalitarian states, which like this one have applied the same measures to crush dissent, they will succeed in nothing more than amplifying and radicalizing the revolt.

Active solidarity with the hostages of the state!

The show must go down

The mainstream media squad, at the front lines of which are the newspaper *La Presse* and its journalists Gabrielle Duchaine, Vincent Larouche, and Daphné Cameron, has finally succeeded in isolating a scapegoat that they've long been looking for. Within the storm of frenzied law and order that has swept over Montréal since the morning-time paralysis of the métro service, our group Force Étudiante Critique has been targeted by these mediocre journalists as the convenient scarecrow. The reference point for radicals in total revolt, a headless chicken that's flailing in all directions seeking maximum disruption of everything that society has in terms of bridges, tunnels, railroads, and what else again?

The rules of the game: ours

We won't hand ourselves over as feed for the journalists, who are desperately looking for ways to contact us to obtain our comments, because we refuse to take part in the media circus. The information on us that they are looking for is already available on our website and this is accessible to anyone who has the smallest interest in our project. We have nothing to add to what was already written, and the whole of our published texts seem to be enough to satisfy curiosity towards us.

We are rather calling for active solidarity without any disassociation nor condemnation with all those individuals criminalized by the state in the course of the ongoing student strike movement, be it for actions of disruption or demonstrations, or those facing the many situations of injunction [a despotic measure still used by the courts to force teachers to give classes during the strike, countered repeatedly by the active blocking of class with hard pickets]. This solidarity expresses itself through collective responsibility for the fate of each and every individual, denouncing this criminalization through demonstrations or vigils, opposing the targeted arrests and snitching, bringing legal, financial, and moral support to the arrestees and pressuring for the dismissal of their charges, surveilling police practices, giving first aid to the wounded, by hanging on to each other. All this forms the basis of a culture of struggle that we must keep alive and continue to develop. Police repression and its short-, mid-, and long-term consequences constitute an attack that is incomparable to the actions that have punctuated the ongoing movement. We are all bathing in the same shit basin. We will let no one drown in it.

Staging a show of smoke (and mirrors)

We are reacting as such to the media and police treatment which now prevails. We've seen that even before the formal accusations were brought forth by the SPVM, the people suspected of having carried out the action on Thursday morning in the Montréal métro were served with a concerning presumption of guilt, relayed without hesitation by the mainstream media. Their personal addresses were made public, their private lives put under the microscope, the nasty remarks of false friends were publicized as indisputable Truth. Their political opinions were ostracized, in spite of the presumption of innocence that, in a country where the political elite and media consortium never cease to brag about "the merits of democracy", seems to have been curiously swept aside by the feeble investigators and the low-grade columnists.

The perverted desire of the journalists and their bosses is first to demonize the militants, followed by a political group, and then by extension all of the groups which position themselves to the left of CLASSE and the student federations. It consists, beyond any doubt, of a by-the-book political attack. Denunciation and stigmatization play an integral part in the repressive process; they back it up. In choosing this path, *La Presse* and its sheep have once again demonstrated on which side of the barricades they stand: that of the baton, the arrests, the tear gas, the pepper spray, and the plastic bullets. The little news desk officers support the erosion of our liberties, such as the parliamentary bill on wearing masks, and the obligation to provide the police with a demonstration's route. Is it surprising, in this context, that Jean Charest himself is profiting from the luxury of this toilet newspaper's owner (that ultra-rich globalist Paul Desmarais) by repeatedly taking vacations to his posh villa of Sagard?

We forcefully condemn the fascistic methods that are currently multiplying in Québec when it comes to dealing with events of social disruption. We reckon that in comparison to the brutality of the state towards those who dare to oppose its authority, the present social movement is more submissive than it is disruptive. The acting minority who are committing acts for which they risk criminal charges have unsurprisingly had their names dragged through the mud by the purveyors of easily-thought opinions, the lackeys of the media industry, themselves at the service of higher interests. We claim the right to resistance for all those who are fed up with this society muzzled by